

Indirect Rebuke



China's President Xi Jinping walks to a podium to deliver a speech at the opening ceremony of the annual Boao Forum in Boao, in southern China's Hainan province, Sunday, April 7, 2013.

(AP Photo/Alexander F. Yuan)

From China, a call to avoid 'chaos for selfish gain'

JANE PERLEZ

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BOAO, China — In an indirect but still clear reference to the North Korean crisis, China's president, Xi Jinping, said Sunday that no one country should be allowed to create chaos that threatened a region or the world. As North Korea's major ally, China has been discomforted by the behavior of the North Korean leader,

Kim Jong Un, but has refrained from making pronouncements that would signal what it planned to do, if anything, to try and curb Pyongyang. The Obama administration, in response to North Korea's threats to fire missiles at the United States, has said that it will strengthen its missile defenses, and has sent jet fighters, bombers and warships to the area as a show

of support for South Korea. Xi did not mention the actions of the U.S. in his speech at the Boao Forum, an annual gathering China hosts for foreign leaders and business people to discuss economic and social issues in Asia. "No one should be allowed to throw a region and even the whole world into chaos for selfish gain," he said. The stability of Asia faces

new challenges as "hot spot issues keep emerging and both traditional and nontraditional security threats" surfaced, he said. Xi was making his first appearance before a foreign audience in China since taking over as president in March, and dwelled mostly on how China's economic boom benefits Asia.

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BACK IN SESSION

WASHINGTON (AP) — Congress returns Monday from a two-week spring recess with gun-control legislation high on the Senate's agenda as President Barack Obama looks for a breakthrough in his efforts to curb gun violence following the recent massacre at a Connecticut elementary school.

Senators could start debating Democratic-writ-



From left, Sen. Jeff Flake, R-Ariz., Sen. Chuck Schumer, D-NY, Sen. John McCain, R-Ariz., and Sen. Michael Bennett, D-Colo., in Nogales, Ariz. Congress returns Monday, April 8, 2013, from a two-week spring recess with gun control and immigration high on the Senate's agenda. (AP Photo/Ross D. Franklin)

ten gun legislation before week's end. But leaders also might decide to give negotiators more time to seek a deal on expanding background checks for firearms buyers.

Two influential senators, one from each party, are working on an agreement that could expand background checks on firearms sales to include gun shows and online transactions, Senate aides said Sunday.

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From China, a call to avoid 'chaos for selfish gain'

Continued from Front

"Since the turn of the century, China's trade with neighboring countries rose by more than \$100 billion to \$1.3 trillion, already making China the largest trade partner, largest export market and important investment source of many neighboring countries," Xi said. China's overall economic growth will continue to spill into Asia, he predicted. "It's estimated that in the next five years, China will import about \$1 trillion worth of goods, have foreign investment rise to \$500 billion and outbound tourists may exceed 400 million," he said. "The more China develops, the more development opportunities it can bring to Asia and the world."

The audience included several Asian leaders who

are of particular importance to China. The president of Myanmar, U Thein Sein, who is balancing a power play in his country

between the U.S. and China, met with Xi on Saturday, and spoke on Sunday. Sultan Hassanal Bolkiah of Brunei – the current chair

of the Association of Southeast Asian Nations, whose members hold divided loyalties toward China – attended Xi's speech, along

with the Cambodian president, Hun Sen, an ally of China in Southeast Asia.

The forum, which China promotes as an important outreach to Asia, attracted an eclectic mix of foreign guests. The governor of the Central Bank of Iran, Mahmoud Bahmani, spoke to a panel after Xi's speech, and Bill Gates addressed an audience on Saturday evening about his philanthropy and health programs in Africa.

Several of the invited leaders made pitches on the suitability of their national products for the Chinese market.

Prime Minister John Key of New Zealand noted that his country's food technology was unsurpassed, suggesting that New Zealand's food products have wide appeal to Chinese consumers increasingly concerned about tainted homegrown food. New Zealand milk is popular in Chinese supermarkets, and New Zealand is working in China with some producers to make food products with "high quality and proven safety," Key said.

Xi, who returned last week from his first overseas trip to Russia, and three countries in Africa, was aiming his message to the Asian region, said Robert D. Hormats, the undersecretary of state for economic growth, energy and environment and the highest-ranking U.S. participant.

"It's good-neighbor policy," Hormats said of Xi's speech. "It was really a talk to Asia with an Asian message. He was saying we want to strengthen economic linkages with the region." In the last week, China's foreign ministry has released several statements saying that it considered the North Korean situation to be of "grave concern." On Sunday, the ministry repeated the phrase, saying that China had requested that North Korea protect foreign diplomats living in Pyongyang. The North Korean government warned Friday that those at embassies in the capital should prepare to leave. □



China's President Xi Jinping, center back, walks to his seat as he arrives at the opening ceremony of the annual Boao Forum in Boao, in southern China's Hainan province, Sunday, April 7, 2013.

(AP Photo/Alexander F. Yuan)

Dad: killed diplomat had passion for her work

SOPHIA TAREEN
Associated Press

CHICAGO (AP) — Anne Smedinghoff had a quiet ambition and displayed a love of global affairs from an early age, joining the U.S. Foreign Service straight out of college and volunteering for missions in perilous locations worldwide. So when the 25-year-old suburban Chicago woman was killed Saturday in southern Afghanistan — the first American diplomat to die on the job since last September's attack in Benghazi, Libya — her family took solace in the fact that she died doing something she loved.

"It was a great adventure for her ... She loved it," her father, Tom Smedinghoff, told The Associated Press on Sunday. "She was tailor-made for this job."

Smedinghoff died when the group she was traveling with was struck by an explosion in southern Zabul province. They were en route to donate textbooks to students. The U.S. Department of Defense did not release the names of the others who died: three U.S. soldiers

and one civilian employee of the Pentagon.

Anne Smedinghoff grew up in River Forest, Illinois — an upscale suburb about 10 miles (16 kilometers) west of

Chicago — the daughter of an attorney and the second of four children. She attended the highly selective Fenwick High School, followed by Johns Hopkins University, where she studied international relations and became a key organizer of the university's annual Foreign Affairs Symposium in 2008. The event draws high-profile speakers from around the world.

Those who knew Smedinghoff described her as



This undated photo provided by Tom Smedinghoff, shows Anne Smedinghoff. Anne Smedinghoff, 25, was killed Saturday, April 6, 2013 in southern Afghanistan, the first American diplomat to die on the job since last year's attack on the U.S. diplomatic installation in Benghazi, Libya.

(AP Photo/Tom Smedinghoff)

a positive, hard-working and dependable young woman. While a student at Johns Hopkins in Baltimore, she worked part-time for Sam Hopkins, an attorney near campus. He described her as ambitious "but in a wonderfully quiet, modest way."

Her first assignment for the foreign service was in Caracas, Venezuela, and she volunteered for the Afghanistan assignment after that. Her father said family members would tease her about signing up for a less dangerous location, maybe London or Paris.

"She said, 'What would I do in London or Paris? It would be so boring,'" her father recalled. In her free time, she would travel as much as possible, her father said. Smedinghoff was an up-and-coming employee of the State Department who garnered praise from the highest ranks. She was to finish her Afghanistan assignment as a press officer in July. Already fluent in Spanish, she was gearing up to learn Arabic, first for a year in the U.S. and then in Cairo, before a two-year assignment in Algeria.

Secretary of State John Kerry said Sunday at a news conference in Turkey that Smedinghoff was "vivacious, smart" and "capable." Smedinghoff had assisted Kerry during a visit to Afghanistan two weeks ago. □

Israel begins annual Holocaust Memorial Day

ARON HELLER
Associated Press

JERUSALEM (AP) — Israel dedicated its annual memorial day for the 6 million Jews killed in the Holocaust to mark 70 years to the Warsaw ghetto uprising, a symbol of Jewish resistance against the Nazis in World War II that resonates deeply in Israel to this day. At the opening ceremony

at nightfall, President Shimon Peres and Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu both linked the desperate Jewish revolt of 1943 to the warrior mentality that enabled the establishment of Israel five years later. "There was a never a rebellion like it. They were so few and their bravery remained as a model for so many," Peres said at Yad Vashem,

Israel's official Holocaust memorial, before hundreds of Holocaust survivors and their families, Israeli leaders, diplomats and others. "A clear line exists between the resistance in the ghettos, in the camps and in the forests and the rebirth and bravery of the state of Israel. It is a line of dignity, of renewed independence, of mutual responsibility,

of exalting God's name," he said, "as a ray of hope which was not extinguished even during terrible anguish. The ghetto fighters sought life even when circumstance screamed despair." Netanyahu called the uprising marked "a turning point in the fate of the Jewish people" where they transformed from helpless

victims into fearless warriors.

Six million Jews were killed by German Nazis and their collaborators in the Holocaust, a third of world Jewry.

The 1943 Warsaw ghetto uprising was the first large-scale rebellion against the Nazis in Europe and the single greatest act of Jewish resistance during the Holocaust. Though guaranteed to fail, it became a symbol of struggle against impossible conditions, illustrated a refusal to give in to Nazi atrocities and inspired other acts of uprising and underground resistance by Jews and non-Jews alike. While the world marks International Holocaust Remembrance Day on Jan. 27, the date of the liberation of the Auschwitz death camp, Israel's annual Holocaust memorial day coincides with the Hebrew date of the Warsaw ghetto uprising.

The Israeli flag flew at half-staff and a military honor guard stood at one side of the podium as poems and psalms were read and the Jewish prayer for the dead was recited.

Peres, an 89-year-old Nobel Peace Prize laureate, also linked the Nazi genocide to Iran's suspected drive to acquire nuclear bombs and its leaders' repeated references to the destruction of Israel and its denial of the Holocaust.

"The civilized world must ask itself ... (how) it is still possible for the leadership, like that of Iran, to openly deny the Holocaust and threaten another Holocaust," he said. "Those who ignore the threat of a Holocaust against one nation must know that the threat of a Holocaust against one nation is a threat of a Holocaust against all nations."

He spoke a day after the latest round of international talks aimed at halting Iran's nuclear development program failed to reach an agreement.

Netanyahu also cited the Iranian threats to destroy Israel and vowed that there will never be another Holocaust. □



Israeli Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu speaks at the opening ceremony of the Holocaust Remembrance Day at the Yad Vashem Holocaust Memorial in Jerusalem, Sunday, April 7, 2013. Israel's annual memorial day for the 6 million Jews killed in the Holocaust has begun with a ceremony marking 70 years since the Warsaw ghetto uprising.

(AP Photo/Sebastian Scheiner)

Decade-old Mideast peace plan re-emerges

JOSEF FEDERMAN
Associated Press

JERUSALEM (AP) — A dormant, decade-old Mideast peace plan has suddenly emerged as a possible key to breaking years of deadlock between Israel and the Palestinians.

A top Palestinian official said Sunday that the visiting U.S. Secretary of State John Kerry has expressed interest in reviving the so-called Arab Peace Initiative, a 2002 plan in which the Arab world offered comprehensive peace with Israel in exchange for a full pullout from all ter-

ritories it captured in the 1967 Mideast war. Arab officials confirmed the Arab League was set to discuss the matter on Monday.

The initiative was revolutionary when it was introduced by Saudi Arabia's then crown prince, King Abdullah, and later endorsed by the 22-member Arab League at a summit in Beirut. However, the plan was overshadowed by fierce Israeli-Palestinian fighting at the time and greeted with skepticism by Israel. The Arab League re-endorsed the plan in 2007, and technically, the offer

remains in effect.

Key obstacles remain. Israel has not softened its objections to the plan, and the Palestinians turned down a request from Kerry for changes in it.

In the 1967 war, Israel took control of the West Bank, east Jerusalem, Gaza Strip, Sinai and Golan Heights. Israeli returned the Sinai to Egypt in 1982 in the framework of a peace treaty and pulled out of Gaza unilaterally in 2005. Israel annexed the Golan Heights in 1981, and peace talks with Syria over the territory have repeatedly failed.

Israeli-Palestinian peace talks have been deadlocked since late 2008, in large part over the issue of Israeli settlements in the West Bank and east Jerusalem.

The Palestinians refuse to talk while Israel settles its population on the occupied territories where they want to establish their state. They have demanded that Israel accept the 1967 lines as the basis for a future Palestine. Israeli Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu rejects a return to the 1967 lines and calls for talks with no preconditions. □



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Senate nears gun debate, background checks pivotal

Continued from Front

If completed, the effort could represent a major breakthrough in the effort by Obama and his allies to enact gun control measures following last December's mass shooting at Sandy Hook Elementary School in Newtown, Connecticut, that left 20 children and six staff members dead.

Democratic Sen. Joe Manchin and Republican Sen. Pat Toomey could nail down an accord early this week, said the aides, who spoke on condition of anonymity to describe the private talks.

The potential deal, which aides cautioned still might change, would exempt transactions between relatives and temporary transfers for hunters and sportsmen, they said.

Manchin is a moderate from West Virginia who touts an "A" rating from the National Rifle Association, the influential gun rights lobbying group which has led the opposition to Obama's gun control drive.

A united front by the two lawmakers would make it easier for gun control advocates to attract support from moderate Democrats

who have been wary of supporting the effort and from Republicans who have largely opposed it so far.

With conservative Republicans threatening to use

There are 53 Democrats and two Democratic-leaning independents in the Senate.

Federal background checks are currently required only for transactions

signed to keep guns from criminals, people with serious mental problems, some drug abusers and others.

After the Newtown massacre, Obama proposed applying the requirement

status to millions who are in the United States without authorization. That will open months of debate on the politically combustible issue, with votes by the Senate Judiciary Committee expected later this month. The House returns Tuesday and initially plans to consider a bill preventing the National Labor Relations Board from issuing rules until a dispute over administration appointees is resolved. Lawmakers will also devote time to the 2014 budget that Obama plans to release Wednesday.

It calls for new tax increases, which Republicans oppose, and smaller annual cost-of-living increases in Social Security payments to retirees and other government benefit programs, over the objections of many of the president's fellow Democrats.

On Monday, Obama travels to Connecticut to again make the case for gun legislation, with a speech at the University of Hartford.

"He's been working with both sides to try to get the strongest bill we can that has enforceable background checks," White House senior adviser Dan Pfeiffer said Sunday on ABC television's "This Week."

Other Obama gun control priorities include banning assault weapons and ammunition magazines with more than 10 rounds. Both bans are expected to be offered as amendments when Senate debate begins, but the assault weapons ban seems sure to be defeated and the high-capacity magazine prohibition also faces difficult odds.

Democratic Sen. Chuck Schumer of New York, who had been involved in earlier bipartisan efforts to craft a background check compromise, said Sunday that he is "still hopeful that what I call the sweet spot — background checks — can succeed." □



Senate Judiciary Committee member Sen. Lindsey Graham, R-S.C., talks about gun legislation during the committee's hearing on Capitol Hill in Washington. Congress returns from a two-week spring recess Monday, April 8, 2013, with gun control and immigration high on the Senate's agenda. Senators could start debating Democratic-written gun legislation before week's end, but leaders may decide to give negotiators more time to seek a deal on expanding background checks for firearms buyers.

(AP Photo/Susan Walsh)

legislative maneuvers to prevent a final vote on gun control legislation, Democrats will need 60 of the chamber's 100 votes to prevail.

handled by the roughly 55,000 federally licensed firearms dealers; private sales such as gun-show or online purchases are exempt. The system is de-

to virtually all firearms sales. Gun control advocates consider expanded background checks to be the most effective step lawmakers could take to curb gun violence.

The National Rifle Association and other critics say the checks are ignored by criminals, and they fear that expanding the system could be a step to the government maintaining files on gun owners.

"We remain committed in our opposition to expanding a broken system," said NRA lobbyist Chris W. Cox. Also high on Congress' agenda is immigration, where a decisive moment is approaching.

Bipartisan groups in the House and Senate are expected to present legislation as early as this week aimed at securing the U.S. border, fixing legal immigration and granting legal

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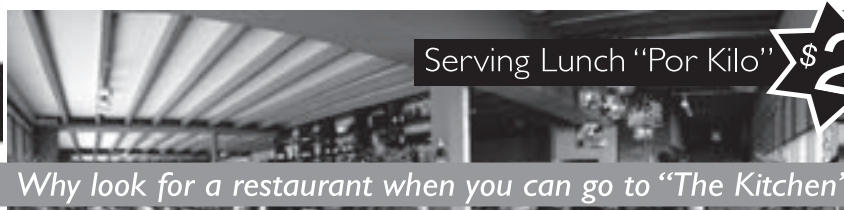
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Key US senator sees deal this week on immigration



In this photo released by CBS News Sen. John McCain, R-Ariz., and Sen. Chuck Schumer, D-N.Y., appear on CBS's "Face the Nation," Sunday, April 7, 2013. McCain and Schumer spoke about gun legislation, the latest developments with North Korea and immigration.

(AP Photo/CBS News, Chris Usher)

WASHINGTON (AP) — A noisy debate over the flawed U.S. immigration system will begin in earnest this week as senators finalize a bipartisan bill to secure the border, allow tens of thousands of foreign workers into the country and grant

eventual citizenship to the estimated 11 million people living here illegally.

Negotiators warned of struggles ahead, but all involved are optimistic that it's time to make the biggest changes to the nation's immigration laws in

more than a quarter-century. "There will be a great deal of unhappiness about this proposal because everybody didn't get what they wanted," Republican Sen. John McCain, a leader of the eight senators negotiating the legislation,

said Sunday on CBS.

Democratic Sen. Chuck Schumer, another of the eight senators involved, told CBS he's hoping for a bipartisan deal by the end of this week.

In a bitterly divided Congress, the immigration bill appears to be one of the few major pieces of legislation that is likely to receive bipartisan support and become law. For many oppo-

sition Republicans, their loss in last year's presidential election, when Latino and Asians voters backed President Barack Obama in big numbers, resonates as evidence that they must confront the immigration issue.

"Every corner of the Republican Party ... is now understanding there has to be an earned pathway to citizenship," Republican Sen. Lindsey Graham said. □

Cold case arrest prompts national probe

TAMI ABDOLLAH
Associated Press

LOS ANGELES (AP) — When Los Angeles cold case detectives caught up with Samuel Little this past fall, he was living in a Christian shelter in Kentucky, his latest arrest a few months earlier for alleged possession of a crack pipe. But the LA investigators wanted him on far more serious charges: The slayings of two women in 1989, both found strangled and nude below the waist — victims of what police concluded had been sexually motivated strangulations.

Little's name came up, police said, after DNA evidence collected at old crime scenes matched samples of his stored in a criminal database. After

detectives say they found yet another match, a third murder charge was soon added against Little.

Now, as the 72-year-old former boxer and transient awaits trial in Los Angeles, authorities in numerous jurisdictions in California, Florida, Kentucky, Missouri, Louisiana, Texas, Georgia, Mississippi and Ohio are scouring their own cold case files for possible ties to Little. One old murder case, in Pascagoula, Miss., already has been reopened. DNA results are pending in some others.

Little's more than 100-page rap sheet details crimes in 24 states spread over 56 years — mostly assault, burglary, armed robbery, shoplifting and drug viola-

tions. In that time, authorities say incredulously, he served less than 10 years in prison.

But Los Angeles detectives allege he was also a serial killer, who traveled the country preying on prostitutes, drug addicts and troubled women.

They assert Little often delivered a knockout punch to women and then proceeded to strangle them while masturbating, dumping the bodies and soon after leaving town. Their investigation has turned up a number of cases in which he was a suspect or convicted.

Police are using those old cases — and tracking down surviving victims — to help build their own against Little. □

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Church prays for Rick Warren after son's suicide

LAKE FOREST, California (AP) — Members of Rick Warren's Southern California church began Sunday services with a prayer for the popular evangelical pastor, as he and his family coped with the apparent suicide of his 27-year-old son.

Tom Holladay, teaching pastor at Saddleback Church in Orange County, opened the 9 a.m. worship service by saying the congregation would face the tragedy together, "as a church family."

Holladay led a prayer for Warren and his wife, Kay, and their two other children.

The lead pastor was not in attendance Sunday, a day after the church announced that Matthew Warren took his own life at his Mission Viejo home.

Rick Warren, the author of the multimillion-selling book "The Purpose Driven Life," is one of the most prominent evangelical leaders in the U.S. He drew national attention in 2009 when he gave the invocation at President Barack Obama's historic inauguration.



This undated photo provided by the Saddleback Valley Community Church shows Matthew Warren, the son of Pastor Rick Warren. Saddleback Valley Community Church in Lake Forest, Calif., said in a statement Saturday, April 6, 2013, that Warren's 27-year-old son, Matthew Warren, has committed suicide after struggling with mental illness and deep depression. (AP Photo)

Matthew Warren struggled with mental illness, deep depression and suicidal thoughts throughout his life, Saddleback Valley Community Church said in a statement, after his body was found Friday night.

"Despite the best health care available, this was an illness that was never fully controlled and the emotional pain resulted in his decision to take his life," the church said.

Allison O'Neal, a supervising deputy coroner for Orange County, declined to release the cause and manner of death pending an autopsy.

Rick Warren said in an email to church staff that he and his wife had enjoyed a fun Friday evening with their son. But their son then returned home to take his life in "a momentary wave of despair."

Over the years, Matthew Warren had been treated by America's best doctors, had received counseling and medication and been the recipient of numerous prayers from others, his father said.

"I'll never forget how,

many years ago, after another approach had failed to give relief, Matthew said 'Dad, I know I'm going to heaven. Why can't I just die and end this pain?'" Warren recalled.

Despite that, he said, his son lived for another decade, during which he often reached out to help others.

"You who watched Matthew grow up knew he was an incredibly kind, gentle, and compassionate man," Warren wrote. "He had a brilliant intellect and a gift for sensing who was most in pain or most uncomfortable in a room. He'd then make a bee-line to that person to engage and encourage them."

The elder Warren founded Saddleback Church in 1980, according to his biography on the church website, and over the years watched it grow to 20,000 members. He and his wife, Kay, began by holding Bible studies for people who weren't regular churchgoers.

Matthew Warren was the youngest of their three children.

Obama aide: Republicans must cooperate on budget

Associated Press

WASHINGTON (AP) — The White House on Sunday warned Republicans that an inflexible approach would mean defeat for them in upcoming budget negotiations but told its Democratic allies they, too, will have to bend on President Barack Obama's spending plan that's set to be released this week.

Obama is set to formally release his budget outline Wednesday.

Its delay from February, then to March and now to April has left lawmakers

in the Republican-led House of Representatives and Democratic-controlled Senate to write their own budget proposals and move ahead without a concrete plan from Obama's economic team. White House senior adviser Dan Pfeiffer said the White House was willing to work with Republicans to come up with an outline that both jump-starts the economy and reduces the nation's debt.

Yet Pfeiffer also told Republican lawmakers that stubbornness among their

party's leadership would only yield public embarrassment.

But he also warned Democrats who are wary of some of the president's cuts that they will have to sacrifice.

"Look, this is compromise," Pfeiffer said. "And compromise means there are going to be some folks on both sides who are not happy."

Even on the eve of its release, the president's budget was seen more as a starting point for negotiations than a final proposal.

"We're beginning to set

the stage for the grand bargain," Republican Sen. Lindsey Graham told NBC, noting the Obama proposal as a whole "isn't going to make it."


Such a large-scale fiscal deal that goes beyond the budget to address the country's booming debt has proven elusive for Obama. The White House has tried to negotiate with Republicans a grand compromise that brings down spending while protecting social safety nets. Each time, talks have fallen apart amid revolt among the

strongest partisans in both top political parties.

Yet Obama is again working to find a deal, his top advisers said.

On Wednesday night, the president is scheduled to meet with Republican senators for dinner.

"What we're looking for is what the president calls a caucus of common sense, folks who are willing to compromise and who understand that in divided government, both sides aren't going to get everything they want," Pfeiffer told Fox.



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Hillary Clinton's every public move generates buzz



Former Secretary of State Hillary Rodham Clinton addressing the Vital Voices Global Partnership 2013 Global Leadership Awards gala at the Kennedy Center for the Performing Arts in Washington. Clinton is getting plenty of encouragement to run for president in 2016. Her re-emergence this past week after a two-month break brought out cheering supporters when she gave speeches focused on the issues of women and girls around the world.

(AP Photo/Cliff Owen)

Associated Press
NEW YORK (AP) — Young supporters hold signs outside Hillary Rodham Clinton's speeches urging her to run for U.S. president. Audiences listen with rapt attention as she discusses the plight of women and girls in developing countries. Even a long-expected book deal announcement generates lots of buzz. Not long after Clinton stepped down as President Barack Obama's secretary of state this year, the "will she or won't she" question is already following her around like the supporters who held "Ready for Hillary" signs outside speeches this week in Washington and New York City — her first public talks since stepping down. The runner-up of the 2008 Democratic presidential race is already the focus of the 2016 one. Tina Brown, editor in chief of Newsweek and the Daily Beast, which sponsored the Women in the World confer-

ence where Clinton spoke Friday, captured the buzz when introducing her. "Of course," Brown said, "the big question now about Hillary is, what's next?" That elicited loud cheers — but no answer. Pointing to the U.S., Clinton said America's position as a world leader demands that it devote full attention to empowering women to participate in the economy and society fully. She called for equal pay for women and encouraging women and girls to pursue careers in math and science. "This truly is the unfinished business of the 21st century, and it is the work we are called to do," Clinton said. "I look forward to being your partner in all the days and years ahead." The 65-year-old former first lady has said she has no plans to pursue the White House again but has refrained from ruling anything out. Many Democrats view her as a worthy successor to President Barack

Obama, with whom she waged a fierce struggle for the party's nomination in 2008. Her popularity soared as secretary of state, although that may have been in part because she cast aside the sharp brand of politics that made her a polarizing figure at times in the past, in favor of diligent diplomacy. Some Clinton loyalists note that the last presidential election was only six months ago. But James Carville, a former adviser to Bill Clinton, signed on with the Ready for Hillary political action committee on Thursday, urging supporters to help lay the groundwork for a Clinton campaign. Carville said the "enthusiasm and hunger" for a Clinton presidency was "unlike

anything I've ever seen." "We need to convert the hunger that's out there for Hillary's candidacy into a real grassroots organization," Carville said. Clinton is not expected to make a decision anytime soon and has outlined plans to write a memoir about her time at the State Department, advocate on behalf of women and girls and give speeches. With her book due out in the middle of 2014, she'll have an opportunity to travel the country in the months before the midterm elections in 2014. Her biggest splash was her video announcement in support of gay marriage last month, a move that put her in line with most Democrats. □



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Capriles supporters rally in streets of Caracas

C. TOOTHAKER

Associated Press

CARACAS, Venezuela (AP) — A general expectation that Hugo Chavez's hand-picked successor will win next weekend's presidential election didn't dim the spirits of more than 100,000 backers of challenger Henrique Capriles, who jammed the capital's center on Sunday.

Most of the people who converged by foot in the city center on a hot, sunny afternoon tried to shrug off forecasts of victory for Nico-

said.

Chavez had defeated Capriles in October, but by the slimmest margin of his 14-year tenure as president.

Maduro, who rose from bus driver and union organizer to foreign minister under Chavez, is expected to benefit from an emotional outpouring of solidarity among Chavistas who have benefited from the generous social welfare state he created under the socialist banner.

But many critics contend

Barroso said.

Supporters of Capriles chanted anti-government slogans and waved red, yellow and blue Venezuelan flags as they converged on a main avenue in downtown Caracas, where the 40-year-old governor of central Miranda state, was scheduled to speak.

Upbeat demonstrators danced to music sound trucks, which blasted "Fresh Lie," a newly composed song by Puerto Rican salsa musician Willie Colon that pokes fun at Maduro.

sporadic shortages.

Meanwhile, Maduro invoked Chavez during a rally in the southern state of Apure, telling his backers that "El Comandante" is watching over them from Heaven.

"He's protecting us," said Maduro, speaking as if Chavez were omnipresent. Indeed, images of Chavez seem to be everywhere in Venezuela. His smiling face is posted on billboard along highways. State-run television channels regularly broadcast footage of



Opposition presidential candidate Henrique Capriles cheers with supporters during a campaign rally at Bolivar Avenue in Caracas, Venezuela, Sunday, April 7, 2013. Capriles is running against ruling party candidate Nicolas Maduro in next weekend's presidential election.

(AP Photo/Ariana Cubillos)

las Maduro, who was sworn in as acting president after Hugo Chavez died March 5 following a long battle with cancer.

Capriles said the big turnout in the capital was evidence that he'd win at the ballot box next Sunday.

"Today the streets of Caracas were filled with happiness, today the streets of Caracas were filled with hope, today the streets of Caracas confirm what's going to happen," Capriles

said. Maduro has been saddled with a fiscal hangover due to heavy Chavez spending ahead of October's vote.

Jesus Barroso, a 52-year-old retiree, said he believes Maduro will win handily next Sunday. But he predicted Maduro would not be able to complete the six-year term because economic and social woes would prompt Venezuelans to remove him through a recall.

"I don't think he'll last very long in the presidency,"

Capriles has repeatedly accused Maduro of failing to resolve pressing problems including frequent power outages, crumbling infrastructure, shortages of basic foods and double-digit inflation, and supporters say Capriles can do better. "He's capable of offering opportunities to get us out of this disaster," said Maria De Llano said of Capriles, noting that she has difficulty finding some medicines and foods such as coffee, sugar and chicken due to

his speeches.

And Maduro's campaign organizers set up loudspeakers that play sound bites of Chavez's voice at rallies.

A recent poll by the independent polling firm Data-nalisis showed Capriles trailed Maduro 49 percent to 35 percent in a sampling of 800 voters from March 11-13. The poll, with 16 percent of respondents undecided, had a margin of error of 3.4 percentage points.

Afghan govt. says strike kills 11 children

KIM GAMEL

Associated Press

KABUL, Afghanistan (AP) — A fierce battle between U.S.-backed Afghan forces and Taliban militants in a remote corner of eastern Afghanistan left nearly 20 people dead, including 11 Afghan children killed in an airstrike and an American civilian adviser, officials said Sunday.

The fighting along a main infiltration route from Pakistan on Saturday was indicative of a surge in hostilities as Afghanistan's spring fighting season gets underway. This year's will be closely watched because Afghan forces are having to contend with less support from the international military coalition, making it a test case of their ability to take on the country's resilient insurgency.

The U.S.-led coalition confirmed that it launched airstrikes in Kunar province where the deaths occurred, stressing that they were requested by international forces. The coalition said it was assessing the incident, but could not confirm that civilians were killed.

The battle unfolded on Saturday, the same day that a total of six Americans, including three U.S. soldiers, died in violent attacks. In addition to the U.S. adviser killed during the operation in the east, two others — a female foreign service officer with the U.S. State Department and an employee with the U.S. Defense Department — died in a suicide bombing in southern Zabul province during a trip to donate books to Afghan students.

The deaths capped one of the bloodiest weeks of the nearly 12-year-old war. On Wednesday, insurgents ambushed a courthouse in the relatively safe west, killing more than 46 people. The death of Afghan civilians caught in the crossfire has been a major point of contention between international forces and the Afghan government.

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Putin's visit to Germany rattled by disputes

V. ISACHENKOV
Associated press

HANNOVER, Germany (AP) — Russian President Vladimir Putin was expected to hold talks with German officials during a visit here Sunday on differences over Cyprus' financial crisis and concerns about the Kremlin's crackdown on civil society organizations. Germany is Russia's No. 3 trade partner, but ties have become increasingly strained recently over the Kremlin's heavy-handed response to opposition groups, differences over the Syrian crisis and other issues.

The Cyprus crisis, which has badly bruised Russian investors, has become the latest irritant, and it is expected to figure high on the agenda of Putin's talks Sunday with German Chancellor Angela Merkel in Hannover, where the two leaders will attend a trade fair Monday. Before the meeting, several dozen people protested outside the Hannover convention center against the Russian government. Merkel told German ARD television in Hannover on the sidelines of the trade fair's opening ceremony on Sunday night that while the two countries had close economic relations, "our political talks will

also incorporate controversial topics." Speaking to ARD television before the visit, Putin harshly criticized the tax on bank deposits introduced by Cypriot authorities as condition for a 10 billion euro (\$12.8 billion) bailout from international lenders. Savers with more than 100,000 euros at the Bank of Cyprus could face losses of up to 60 percent on their savings as part of the rescue deal.

Russian depositors, who hold as much as 20 billion euros (\$26 billion) in Cypriot banks, are expected to be among those who will suffer most. "Is that fair, that people invested their funds, merely deposited their money with banks without breaking any laws, whether the laws of Cyprus or those of the European Union, just to see 60 percent of their deposits forfeited?" Putin asked. Putin angrily rejected allegations that Cyprus had become a "laundry for dirty money" from Russia, saying that such claims have to be proven and that the EU has allowed the creation of an offshore zone on Cyprus and other places in Europe.

"If you consider such zones a bad thing, then close them," Putin said. "Why do you shift responsibility for all problems that have arisen



German Chancellor Angela Merkel, right, and Russian President Vladimir Putin, left, attend the opening of the Hannover Fair at the Congress Center in Hannover, Germany, Sunday April 7, 2013.

(AP Photo/Alexei Druzhinin)

in Cyprus to investors irrespective of their nationality?"

Despite the hard rhetoric, Russia has turned down Cyprus' plea for financial assistance, submitting to the EU's demand to stay away as it negotiates a bailout. The Kremlin's careful stance on the crisis reflected its reluctance to risk a falling out with the EU, its main trading partner, and with Germany in particular. Merkel is seeking a third term in September elections, and Germany has argued that it was right for big investors to contribute to the rescue of Cyprus. □

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Montenegro: Both sides claim victory in vote

PREDRAG MILIC
Associated Press
PODGORICA, Montenegro (AP) — Both the incumbent and the opposition candidate claimed victory in Montenegro's presidential election on Sunday, fueling political tensions in the small Balkan country. State election authorities had yet to release any official results in the race for the

Lekic's camp, however, said it had counted 97 percent of the ballots and that their candidate had garnered 50.5 percent of the votes, compared to 49.5 for Vujanovic. The opposition said it expected the result to remain the same until the end of the counting process. "The citizens of Montenegro have trusted me to become the presi-

the country virtually unchallenged for more than two decades. Vujanovic is after his second presidential term since Montenegro became independent in 2006. He is a strong advocate of Montenegro's integration into the EU as well as NATO. Lekic is a former ambassador-turned opposition leader whose candidacy won backing from



Presidential candidate and Montenegrin President Filip Vujanovic casts his ballot at the polling station in Podgorica, Montenegro, Sunday, April 7, 2013. Voters in Montenegro on Sunday are choosing a president between the government-backed incumbent and an opposition leader who has demanded that NATO apologize for the 1999 bombing of the country while it was still part of Serb-led Yugoslavia. (AP Photo/Risto Bozovic)

largely ceremonial post. President Filip Vujanovic said that based on his camp's own, full count of the votes, he had won 51.3 percent of ballots, while opponent Miodrag Lekic won 48.7 percent. "I want to inform the public that I have achieved a victory," Vujanovic said. "I would like to thank the citizens of Montenegro." Vujanovic's supporters started gathering in the center of the capital, Podgorica, to celebrate.

dent," Lekic said. "I urge the other side to act in a serious and responsible manner. We will demand that each ballot be counted." A contested vote could raise political instability in Montenegro, which hopes to join the European Union. The presidency, which comes with a five-year term in Montenegro, does not have much power, but the tight result in the election deals a blow to Montenegro's governing coalition, which has ruled

most opposition parties. Lekic has urged a referendum on NATO membership and an apology from the alliance for the 1999 bombing of the country while it was still part of Serb-led Yugoslavia. For most of Montenegro's more than 600,000 people, the most important issue is the economy. The average salary in the country is less than 500 euros per month, while the unemployment rate officially stands at around 20 percent. □

Portugal PM: deeper cuts coming

BARRY HATTON
Associated Press
LISBON, Portugal (AP) — Despite two years of corrosive austerity measures since it needed an international financial rescue, Portugal's prime minister told his country Sunday to brace for even harder times after a court ruling forced his government to find more savings through steep spending cuts. Pedro Passos Coelho said in a somber televised address to the nation that his center-right government must slash public services because of a Constitutional Court decision to disallow some of its latest tax hikes. A new crack-down on public spending will focus on social security, education, health services and state-run companies, he said. That is likely to bring more layoffs as Portugal scrambles to restore its financial health after it needed a 78 billion euro (\$101 billion) bailout in 2011. "Today, we are

still not out of the financial emergency which placed us in this painful crisis," Passos Coelho said. Portugal's worsening problems threaten to reignite the eurozone's financial crisis not long after Cyprus became the fifth member of the 17-nation bloc to require rescue. The Portuguese economy contracted 3.2 percent last year and is forecast to shrink 2.3 percent in 2013 for a third straight year of recession. The unemployment rate, currently at a record 17.5 percent, is forecast to climb to 18.5 percent in 2014. European leaders have for three years struggled to contain the financial crisis, and Portugal's ongoing problems illustrate the dilemma of finding a balance between austerity measures and growth policies. Many Europeans want to abandon the austerity path and start spending again to create jobs and wealth. □

Ukraine: President pardons 2 Tymoshenko allies

MARIA DANILOVA
Associated Press
KIEV, Ukraine (AP) — A top ally of imprisoned former Prime Minister Yulia Tymoshenko walked free from jail Sunday, after Ukraine's president pardoned him and another ex-minister, moving toward fulfilling a key demand on Kiev's path to integrate closer with the European Union. President Viktor Yanukovich signed a decree to pardon former Interior Minister Yuri Lutsenko, 48, who is serving a four-year sentence on charges of abuse of office and embezzlement. Lutsenko's health has deteriorated since his arrest in early 2010, his supporters and doctors said.

The move came after the country's human rights official petitioned for Lutsenko, and the presidential commission on pardons recommended that Yanukovich pardon him. He also pardoned another Tymoshenko ally, the former environment minister, Heorhiy Filipchuk, who was also imprisoned for abuse of office. Tymoshenko is serving a seven-year prison sentence after being convicted in 2011 of abuse of office. The West has called the cases politically motivated. The European Union has warned that it will not sign a key cooperation agreement with Kiev until those two cases are resolved. □

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EU: No deal reached at nuclear talks with Iran

GEORGE JAHN
Associated Press

ALMATY, Kazakhstan (AP) — Iran and six world powers failed to reach agreement Saturday on how to reduce fears that Tehran might use its nuclear technology to make weapons, extending years of inconclusive talks and adding to concerns

porters at the end of the two-day talks.

Ashton, the convener of the meeting, said negotiators would now consult with their capitals. She made no mention of plans for new talks — another sign that the gap dividing the two sides remains substantial. She said she would talk with

Ashton speaking of “a real back and forth between us when we were able to discuss details, to pose questions, and to get answers directly.”

She described the better negotiating climate as a “very important element.” Still, the lack of forward movement in international

ons.

“The Iranians are using the round of talks to pave the way toward a nuclear bomb,” said Yuval Steinitz, the Israeli minister for intelligence and strategic affairs, in a text message to reporters. “Israel has already warned that the Iranians are taking advantage of the rounds of talks in order to buy time to advance in uranium enrichment, step by step, toward a nuclear weapon.”

Urging the international community to set a “short, clear and final timetable” for further talks, he said “the time has come for the world to show a more aggressive position and make it abundantly clear to the Iranians that their game of negotiations is coming to

an end.”

Any strike on Iran could provoke fierce retaliation directly from Iran and through its Middle East proxies in Syria, Lebanon and Palestine, raising the specter of a larger Middle East conflict and adding to the urgency of keeping both sides at the negotiating table.

At the talks in the Kazakh city of Almaty, the U.S., Russia, China, Britain, France and Germany were asking Tehran to greatly limit its production and stockpiling of uranium enriched to 20 percent, which is just a technical step away from weapons-grade uranium. That would keep Iran's supply below the amount needed for further processing into a weapon. □



Potential presidential candidate, Ali Akbar Velayati, adviser to the Iranian supreme leader Ayatollah Ali Khamenei, speaks during a press conference in Tehran, Iran, Sunday, April 7, 2013. Velayati blamed the West for failure at the weekend talks in Almaty, Kazakhstan. “The talks showed that the West is not honest in its remarks,” he told reporters. He said Western powers cannot achieve progress “if they do not acknowledge Iran's natural rights” to enrich uranium. Velayati is seen a leading candidate for June elections to pick a successor to President Mahmoud Ahmadinejad.

(AP Photo/Vahid Salemi)

the diplomatic window on reaching a deal with Tehran may soon close.

Expectations the negotiations were making progress rose as an afternoon session continued into the evening. But comments by the two sides after they ended made clear that they fell far short of making enough headway to qualify the meeting as a success.

“What matters in the end is substance, and ... we are still a considerable distance apart,” Catherine Ashton, the European Union's head of foreign policy, told re-

chief Iranian negotiator Saeed Jalili by telephone over further steps.

Jalili spoke of “some distance between the positions of the two sides.” He suggested Iran was ready to discuss meeting a key demand of the other side — cutting back its highest-grade uranium enrichment production and stockpile — but only if the six reciprocated with rewards far greater than they are now willing to give.

Western negotiators noted an improved atmosphere from previous sessions, with

negotiations that started a decade ago was certain to increase concerns that diplomacy was ineffective as a tool to stop Iran from moving toward nuclear-weapon making capacity. Israel is most worried. The Jewish state says Iran is only a few months away from the threshold of having material to turn into a bomb and has vowed to use all means to prevent it from reaching that point. The U.S. has not said what its “red line” is, but has said it will not tolerate an Iran armed with nuclear weap-



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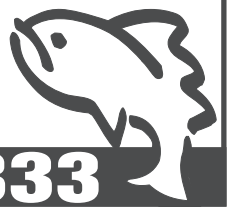


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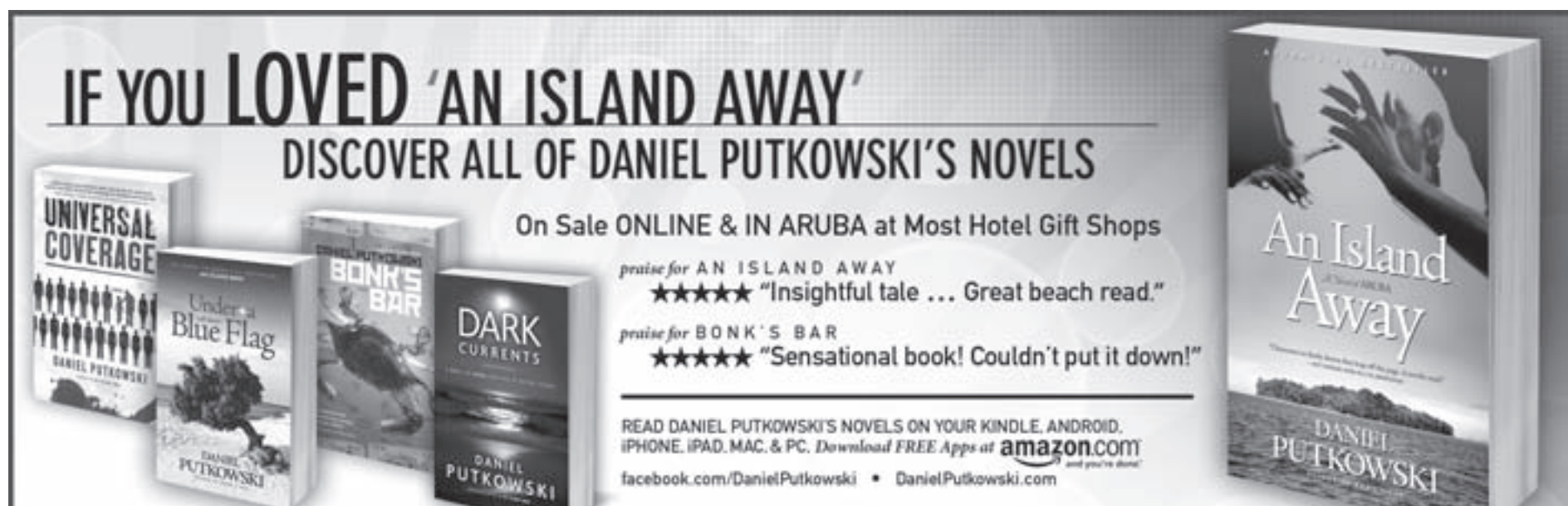
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Francis honors John Paul II before installation

FRANCES D'EMILIO

Associated Press

ROME (AP) — Pope Francis was formally installed as bishop of Rome on Sunday in a ceremony characterized by more simplicity than the usual ritual and pomp enjoyed by papal predecessors taking up their pastoral duties.

and political and labor rallies.

The pope, who has stressed the importance of simplicity, arrived for the unveiling wearing a plain white cassock, in modest contrast to the wardrobe of the Italian cardinal who welcomed him wearing a red cape.

The two-hour-long, early

to the Rome diocese, is the prelate who greeted Francis and who, along with city hall, decided a part of St. John in Lateran Square should be named after John Paul II.

The basilica is the city's most ancient, with foundations dating back to the early 4th century. The installation ceremony held there is steeped in centuries of ritual that modern popes have updated to the times. But while many ornately dressed pontiffs in centuries past arrived in a fancy horse-drawn carriage, Francis rolled into a side entrance of the basilica complex in an open-topped white jeep. Before going indoors, the vehicle stopped again and again so his security team, walking briskly alongside, could pass babies to him so he could kiss them, to the delight of thousands of people gathered in the area. When wind started whipping up, Francis took off his skull cap, letting the breeze tussle his hair.

Francis later donned the tall, peaked bishop's hat, and wearing simply adorned cream-colored vestments, gently sat back in the mosaic-studded basilica chair, known as the "Cathedra Romana," that symbolizes the post of Rome bishop.

He was handed the pastoral staff, symbolizing a bishop's care for his flock. Barely a few minutes later, Francis was up on his feet, shaking hands with priests, nuns, and then with the parents and young children in a Rome family, chatting amiably with them.



A gust of wind blows Pope Francis' mantel as he greets the faithful from the central lodge of the St. John in Lateran Basilica, in Rome Sunday, April 7, 2013. Pope Francis was formally installed as bishop of Rome on Sunday in a ceremony characterized by more simplicity than the usual rituals and pomp enjoyed by papal predecessors taking up their pastoral duties.

(AP Photo/Gregorio Borgia)

In yet another sign that Francis sees his mission as pontiff as one of humble service, he used his arrival at St. John in Lateran Basilica to honor a past pope who remains wildly popular in Rome. Francis arrived a half-hour early to bless a plaque renaming a corner of the piazza outside the church after Pope John Paul II, who died in 2005.

Francis applauded, then gave his blessing after Rome's mayor unveiled the simple white stone plaque marking "Giovanni Paul II Square" in a section of the vast piazza, which often hosts free rock concerts

evening installation ceremony was a significant one for the church, since a pope is pontiff because he is elected bishop of Rome, and not vice versa. Right after his election on March 13 as the church's first pope from Latin America, Francis made clear he would relish his pastoral role as the city's bishop.

Francis' insistence on his bishop's role "speaks to his sensibility in truly being the pastor of a church through concrete ways," Cardinal Agostino Vallini told Vatican Radio ahead of the installation ceremony. Vallini, who is the pope's vicar

Capsizing cancels trans-Atlantic rowing attempt

DAVID MCFADDEN

Associated Press

KINGSTON, Jamaica (AP)

— Two Canadians and two Americans attempting to set a world record for an unassisted, human-powered row across the Atlantic Ocean have been rescued after a rogue wave capsized their boat after 73 days at sea, the U.S. Coast Guard and organizers said Sunday. The four endurance rowers, including Canadian Olympic gold medalist Adam Kreek, were rescued from waters some 400 miles (645 kilometers) north of the U.S. Caribbean island of Puerto Rico. They were attempting to row more than 4,000 miles (6,700 kilometers) between the West African nation of Senegal and Miami and set a Guinness World Record. But after weeks of battling rough weather, a couple of shattered oars and various technological headaches, the adventurers were forced to take to a life raft early Saturday after their 29-foot (9-meter) ocean rowboat "James Robert Hanssen" overturned and could not be righted. They donned life jackets and set off a personal locator beacon. Coast Guard crews located the men a few hours after getting a distress signal on Saturday morning and an 800-foot (244-meter) cargo ship later picked up the rowers. They were all in good health and were heading for Puerto Rico on the Panamanian-flagged "Heijin" cargo ship on Sunday.

"For just about the entire

trip, except for about eight days, the weather and conditions did not match up with the expected models and predictions. So it was a bit of a slog for a good portion of the whole trip," said Greg Spooner, land operations chief for Seattle-based OAR Northwest, which organized the trans-Atlantic attempt sponsored by the Canadian Wildlife Federation. Even so, Spooner said, the rowers reported that the last week had progressed relatively smoothly, so it was a shock when he was notified by the Coast Guard that their boat had overturned and the four had been rescued.

The boat carrying the four rowers — Kreek, fellow Canadian Markus Pukonen and Seattle's Patrick Fleming and Jordan Hanssen — was outfitted with communication devices and a wind turbine that powered batteries, including one for desalinating sea water. But early on in the expedition, the turbine failed to spin correctly and power had to be carefully rationed.

"That meant on some days choosing to make water or keeping your communications equipment on so ships could see you," Spooner said by phone on Sunday. On Friday, a day before the capsizing, the crew tweeted about an intense lightning storm.

"Lightning storm passed over us yesterday. Jordan's beard was rising to the sky and glowing, and both antennas were glowing at their tips.



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Now on display: Coveted TR4 makes its grand debut at Louis Vuitton Aruba!

ORANJESTAD - Louis Vuitton's new four-wheeled suitcase joins the iconic Pégase in the family of rolling luggage, uniting flair with function to enhance the experience of travel. Currently, just in time for Summer vacation travel planning, Louis Vuitton Aruba announces that the Maison's newest must-have travel companion has arrived and is on display at the boutique located at Renaissance Mall. A subtly retro look, reassuring curves, four wheels... Elegant and ergonomic, the TR4 is the new star of Louis Vuitton's luggage line.

Since 1854, Louis Vuitton has accompanied the world's most celebrated travelers, defining, with each expertly conceived and painstakingly crafted creation, an "art de voyager". Once again at the leading edge of innovation, the Maison has perfected every detail of the new TR4 trolley case true to its heritage of leather craftsmanship, combining respect for tradition with daring modernity.

Covering the case's gentle curves, Monogram canvas epitomizes the timeless elegance and legendary robustness for which Louis Vuitton luggage is renowned. Designed to withstand the rigors of life on the move, it twists and turns upon itself with admirable ease, ensuring the treasures it transports within its two shells come to no harm. Inside, it is as ingeniously arranged as one of the Maison's historic trunks. Nothing is left to chance; every detail fulfills a traveler's need, right down to the slim pockets into which a notebook can be slipped at the very last minute. A series of closed and adjustable spaces offers so many possibilities, gently guiding even the most disorderly of travelers along the path to reason.

Last but not least, the TR4 exhibits all the features that sign a piece of Louis Vuitton luggage for life: the pale gold patina on the leather handle and address tag, the padlock, the LV initials, and a myriad discreet and carefully considered refinements that make traveling a pleasure. With the TR4, Louis Vuitton has combined technology, functionality and the highest quality. As with any Louis Vuitton luggage piece, the TR4 underwent rigorous, habitual testing and shows it is created to last at least 10 years with one trip per week or up to 40 years with one trip per month. It is the first branded thermo compressed canvas luggage, combining excellent canvas skills with strong rigidity, as well as the elasticity that is agreeable to the touch and absorbs shocks.

In addition, the TR4 features a fiber glass frame, discreetly placed underneath the zip to achieve an amazing ease of opening, while protecting the personal belongings. Louis Vuitton affirms once again the Maison's long-standing commitment to its clients and the 4-wheels trolley can be repaired for at least 10 years after the day it was purchased. In addition, every Louis Vuitton boutique is available for customers in case any precious piece from their luggage set gets damaged. In some major cities, Louis Vuitton features a 48-hour express service in case there is a problem with wheels, handle or trolley cane.

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SEA Stichting Epilepsie Aruba enjoys visit from original founders

ORANJESTAD – The local SEA, Stichting Epilepsie Aruba, received a visit from Marsh and Marty who stopped in to see how things were going with the organization they helped found back in 2007. They were pleased to find Robert as President, Mily as Vice President, and Agnes as Secretary, and while Joe the Treasurer was absent, the entire original

crew was on hand to promote Purple Day on March 26th.

The happy occasion was photographed, and our souvenir snapshots taken at Dr. Horacio Oduber Hospital feature Marsha & Marty Brait, repeat visitors to the island, Robert Nieuw, Mily Henriquez, and Agnes v/d Vloet of SEA Stichting Epilepsie Aruba.

During Purple Day 2013,



more than 1,000 ribbons were distributed and a great number of flyers were

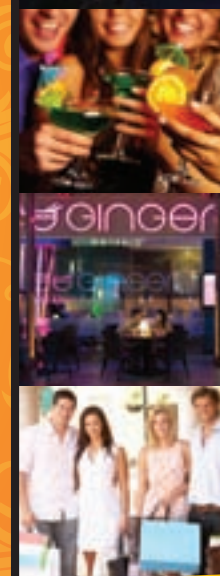
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San Francisco Giants starting pitcher Matt Cain pauses on the mound after giving up a two-RBI double to St. Louis Cardinals' Matt Adams during the fourth inning of a baseball game, Sunday, April 7, 2013, in San Francisco. Associated Press

Cardinals score 9 runs in fourth, beat Giants

The Associated Press
SAN FRANCISCO (AP) — Matt Cain became the first Giants pitcher to allow nine runs in an inning since 1902 when Matt Carpenter and the St. Louis Cardinals tagged him Sunday in a 14-3 romp over San Francisco. The Cardinals chased Cain (0-1) while scoring nine times in the fourth inning. The last two runs came home on Carlos Beltran's single off reliever Jose Mi-jares.

According to research by the Elias Sports Bureau provided by the team, Cain was the first Giants pitcher to give up so many runs in a single inning since John Cronin on Sept. 27, 1902, in the second game of New York's doubleheader against Brooklyn.

Continued on page 22



PACIFIC STANDARD

Clippers win first division title

Los Angeles Clippers forward Blake Griffin (32) dunks as Los Angeles Lakers center Dwight Howard watches during the second half of their NBA basketball game, Sunday, April 7, 2013, in Los Angeles. The Clippers won 109-95. Associated Press

Serena Williams wins 2nd straight Family Circle

PETE IACOBELLI

AP Sports Writer

CHARLESTON, South Carolina (AP) — Serena Williams rallied past Jelena Jankovic 3-6, 6-0, 6-2 on Sunday to win her 15th straight match and second consecutive title at the Family Circle Cup.

It was the second straight tournament where the top-ranked Williams dropped the opening set in the final before digging in for victory. A week ago, she lost 6-4 to Maria Sharapova and then won 12 of the next 15 games to win the Sony Open.

This time, Williams had her serve broken twice and lost her first set of the match. Things turned at the start of the second set with a testy exchange between the competitors as Williams complained about Jankovic serving before she was ready. Williams used the dispute to fire up her play, winning six straight games and 12 of the final 14.

Williams earned \$125,000 for her third Family Circle Cup crown, also winning



Serena Williams poses with the trophy after defeating Jelena Jankovic, of Serbia, 3-6, 6-0, 6-2, to win the Family Circle Cup tennis tournament in Charleston, S.C., Sunday, April 7, 2013.

Associated Press

here in 2008 and 2012.

She had hoped last year's clay-court victory on Billie Jean King Court would spur a big run to a second French Open crown. Instead, Williams was stunningly knocked out at Roland Garros in the opening

round by then 111th-ranked Virginie Razzano.

"This year, my goal is to win a match at the French Open," she joked after the match.

Williams should be favored whenever she plays, especially when provoked like it

looked against Jankovic.

The 28-year-old former No. 1 served to open the second set while Williams held her racquet in front to signal she wasn't ready. During the next changeover, Jankovic asked chair umpire Kader Nouni how long

she needed to wait before serving.

"Until I'm ready," Williams shot back.

The exchange seemed to fire up the 31-year-old Williams, who had looked sluggish and off her game in losing the first set. She broke Jankovic to start the second set, then won her service game at love to start things rolling.

Before Jankovic could regain her footing, Williams rolled to a 6-0 victory.

Jankovic said the dispute took away her focus.

"I gave her wins. I let her back in the match," Jankovic said. "That was my mistake."

Jankovic led 1-0 in the third set, but Williams took the next three games to regain control.

Williams pounded in a 110 mph serve that drove Jankovic wide and then put away the ball near the net to take the match.

Any hard feelings didn't seem to last.

Jankovic met Williams with a big smile at the net as the two exchanged good wishes. When the stadium announcer asked the crowd to acknowledge Jankovic's strong play as she left, Williams joined fans in applauding.

For Williams, it was her 49th career singles title, moving within four of Monica Seles for ninth place on the WTA's all-time list. It wasn't the easiest run to the top, though. Midweek rain wiped out much of Thursday's schedule, meaning Williams had to win twice on Friday to make to the semifinals.

Once there, Williams had to face big sister Venus and responded with a 6-1, 6-2 victory, the most one-sided match in the siblings' long rivalry. □

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Clippers beat Lakers 109-95 to win first division title

By BETH HARRIS
AP Sports Writer

LOS ANGELES (AP) - Chris Paul held up the red T-shirt reading 'Can't Stop Los Angeles' for a quick post-game photo. He didn't put it on, and neither did his Clippers teammates.

There was no celebrating on court or in the locker room after they beat the Lakers 109-95 on Sunday to clinch the Clippers' first Pacific Division title in franchise history against a team that has long overshadowed them.

"It just feels like something we were supposed to do," said Paul, who had 24 points and 12 assists. "It means we're headed in the right direction. We're not satisfied. We understand this is something small compared to the big picture." Blake Griffin had 24 points and 12 rebounds as the playoff-bound Clippers swept the Lakers 4-0 for the first time since Donald Sterling bought the team in 1981.

The 1974-75 team, known as the Buffalo Braves, had the franchise's only other sweep of the Lakers.

Fans chanted, "Sweep! Sweep!" in the closing seconds. Sterling accepted a congratulatory handshake from a fan after the game.

"It's always good to sweep a team in your division, in the West," said Griffin, savoring the first division title of his young career. "I'm proud of how we won the game a little bit differently. We kept up a nice tempo the whole game."

Jamal Crawford had 20 points off the bench, DeAndre Jordan had 13 rebounds and Caron Butler scored 14 points for the Clippers, who knew that even if they lost, they could have clinched later Sunday if Utah won at Golden State.

"We didn't want to do it that way," Paul said. "We wanted to clinch on our own terms."

Clippers coach Vinny Del Negro said, "You have to earn it and today we did." As the division winner, the

Clippers are guaranteed a top-four seed but will only open the playoffs with home-court advantage if they finish the season with a better record than the team in fifth, which currently is Memphis.

"Hopefully, we're playing well at the right time going to the playoffs," Crawford said. He chalked up winning the division title at home against the Lakers to "the basketball gods set it up that way."

Dwight Howard scored 25 points, including 9 of 13 free throws, for the Lakers, who played without injured starters Steve Nash and Metta World Peace. Kobe Bryant added 25 points, 10 assists and seven rebounds, and Pau Gasol had 12 points and 13 rebounds as the Lakers' three-game winning streak ended. Playing as the home team, the Clippers dealt their Staples Center co-tenant's playoff hopes a serious blow.

The Lakers fell into a tie with Utah for the eighth and final playoff berth in the West. If the Jazz won later, they would move a half-game ahead of the Lakers, who have five regular-season games left. The Jazz own the tiebreaker with the Lakers.

"We've got a bigger challenge than worrying about beating the Clippers in one game," Bryant said. "They obviously performed extremely well against us all four times. Our concern is playing well in order to get into the playoffs, get guys healthy, and go in there and see what we can do." The Lakers led by seven points to start the game before the Clippers took the lead for good. The Lakers owned a two-point edge in the paint, but Clippers had more second-chance and fast-break points. They also controlled the boards, 50-36.

"They made some pretty tough shots, and they had players come in and make some big baskets under duress," Bryant said. "They kind of kept us at bay

and they would get some turnovers and get out in transition." The game featured three of the NBA's top-five dunkers in Griffin, Howard and Jordan. They all got some alley-oops in, although the Clippers' usual Lob City show didn't emerge in force until the fourth.

That's when Paul fed Griffin on a fast break late in the game and Griffin raced in for a one-handed jam. Paul stole the ball from Howard and sped up court before flipping it to Jordan for a monster slam. Griffin got the fans on their feet with under 2 minutes to go on a put-back slam that he followed with a 3-pointer to beat the shot clock. □



Los Angeles Lakers guard Kobe Bryant (24) shoots as Los Angeles Clippers forward Caron Butler defends during the first half of their NBA basketball game, Sunday, April 7, 2013, in Los Angeles.

Associated Press

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Martin Laird ties course record with 63 to win Texas Open

KURT VOIGT

AP Sports Writer

SAN ANTONIO (AP) - Martin Laird has spent the last six months on the driving range looking for answers to his struggling game.

The Scottish golfer finally found what he was looking for, and then some on Sunday - winning the Texas Open with a final-round 9-under par 63 to overcome a resurgent Rory McIlroy and some of the world's best along the way.

Laird, who entered the week 161st on the money list, tied the course record with his bogey-free effort. He punctuated the overall 14-under effort with birdies on the final three holes, earning a trip to next week's Masters and plenty of confidence in a recent swing change along the way.

"I came in here quietly confident, even though my record this year has been poor to say the least," Laird said. "But golf's a funny game; doesn't matter what you did two weeks ago. It turns around pretty quickly."

The win was Laird's third on the PGA Tour, his first since the Arnold Palmer Invitational in 2011.



Martin Laird, of Scotland, poses with his trophy after winning the Texas Open golf tournament, Sunday, April 7, 2013, in San Antonio.
Associated Press

He entered the week having missed four of eight cuts this year following a swing change last September, including a missed cut at last week's Houston Open. However, he shot a second-round 65 in that event after a four-hour range session - providing plenty of confidence that his game was finally starting to come together.

It did just that Sunday, and how. Laird began the day four shots behind leader Billy Horschel, but he birdied five of his first eight holes to immediately jump into contention. His 7-foot birdie putt on No. 8 - one

of only 22 putts in the round - put him into a tie with Horschel at 10 under.

He then held off a hard-charging McIlroy over the last few holes, including a stunning up-and-down for birdie out of the fairway bunker and off the fringe on No. 17. He capped the win with a 15-foot birdie putt on the par-5 18th.

McIlroy, the world's No. 2, began the day at 6 under before posting a 66 to finish two shots back and finish second - his best finish of the year.

Horschel shot a 1-under 71 to finish in a tie for third with Jim Furyk and Charley Hoff-

man.

Furyk eagled the par-5 18th from 104 yards out to jump into third. The former U.S. Open winner had only four holes of practice on the Greg Norman-designed Course at TPC on Wednesday before rain washed him out, but he posted a final-round 69 to close out a steady week.

Horschel, who led after the second and third rounds, was unable to match the low rounds of his competitors and finished with a 1-under 71. The Florida native, who was second at last week's Houston Open and was borderline defiant earlier in the week about his chances of competing against former major winners, was seeking his first PGA Tour win.

"Everyone's going to have butterflies," Horschel said. "I don't care if it's Tiger Woods or Joe Schmo at the golf course; you're going to have butterflies, and you have to learn how to deal with it."

McIlroy, who only entered the tournament late last week, closed to within a shot of Laird when he sank a 13-foot birdie putt on the 204-yard par-3 16th to reach 11 under.

The former world No. 1 had

struggled with his consistency for much of the year entering the week, but he made seven birdies on Sunday. It was exactly the kind of competitive final round McIlroy envisioned when he signed up in advance of next week's first major of the year.

He continued to struggle off the tee, hitting just seven of 14 fairways for the third time this week Sunday. However, he needed only 26 putts - by far his best effort on the greens for the week.

"I feel like my game's in really good shape going into next week," McIlroy said. "A round like that gives me a nice bit of confidence."

"I thought if I got to 12 under today that might have been good enough, but Martin just played too good and holed so many putts. It was hard to keep up." While McIlroy's primary focus throughout the week was on preparing for Augusta National, Laird couldn't have imagined when the week began that he would join the former world No. 1 next week. Laird earned this third straight trip to the Masters with his win, which he closed out with three straight birdies. □



Jimmie Johnson celebrates after winning the STP 500 NASCAR Sprint Cup series auto race at Martinsville Speedway in Martinsville, Va., Sunday, April 7, 2013.
Associated Press

HANK KURZ Jr.

AP Sports Writer

MARTINSVILLE, Virginia (AP)

— Jimmie Johnson pulled away from a restart with eight laps to go to win the NASCAR Sprint Cup Series race at Martinsville Speed-

way on Sunday.

Johnson led a career-best 346 laps Sunday and pulled away on a restart with eight laps to go for his eighth career victory at Martinsville Speedway on Sunday.

Jimmie Johnson gets win at Martinsville Speedway

Only Richard Petty with 15, and Darrell Waltrip with 11 have won more.

"It was just a long, fought day," Johnson said after climbing from his car in Victory Lane. "Martinsville, it stays the same over the years and you just have to dig in and get your own rhythm."

Fortunately, the fastest car won the race."

The five-time champion picked the inside line for the restart with Clint Bowyer on the outside, teammate Jeff Gordon behind him and Kyle Busch to his outside, and Johnson got a clean break into Turn 1. Bowyer was second and Busch, who tried to use the outside line, instead got

hung up on the outside as Gordon and his Hendrick Motorsports teammate, Kasey Kahne, who restarted fifth, went underneath to take fourth.

The victory made team owner Rich Hendrick's organization the most successful team in Martinsville history with 20, breaking a tie it had with the Petty organization.

"I think the last stop or two, we really got our car adjusted right," Johnson said. The five-time series champion picked the inside line for the final restart with Clint Bowyer on the outside, teammate Jeff Gordon behind him and Kyle Busch to his outside, and Johnson got a clean break

for the lead into Turn 1.

Bowyer slid into second and Busch, who tried to make a move on the outside line, instead got hung up out there as Gordon and his Hendrick Motorsports teammate, Kasey Kahne, who restarted fifth, went underneath to take fourth.

Nothing changed the rest of the way and the top five finished in those positions. Danica Patrick, whose boss, Tony Stewart, said earlier in the week he thought it would be funny to watch her try to navigate her way around the track, got passed by his rookie driver with 19 laps to go. Patrick finished 12, Stewart 17th. □




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Middlebrooks hits 3HRS, Red Sox rout Blue Jays

The Associated Press

TORONTO (AP) — Will Middlebrooks hit three home runs, two off NL Cy Young Award winner R.A. Dickey, and the Boston Red Sox routed the Toronto Blue Jays 13-0 Sunday.

Middlebrooks went 4 for 5 with four RBIs. He hit a two-run shot to right in the first inning and a solo drive into the second deck in left in the fifth off Dickey. He connected again off Dave Bush with a leadoff longball to left in the seventh, the first three homer game of his career.

Mike Napoli added a two-run shot, and Jacoby Ellsbury and Daniel Nava also went deep as the Red Sox connected for six homers. Dickey (0-2) allowed eight runs — seven earned — and 10 hits in 4 2-3 innings. Red Sox left-hander Jon Lester (2-0) allowed five hits, all singles, in seven shutout innings.

YANKEES 7, TIGERS 0

DETROIT (AP) — CC Sabathia pitched seven scoreless innings and Jayson Nix homered off Justin Verlander in the three-run second, lifting New York. The Yankees (2-4) avoided a sweep and dropping to their worst six-game record since starting the 1989 season 1-7.

Sabathia (1-1) gave up four hits and three walks while striking out four in 114 pitches, bouncing back from a dreadful opening-day start.

Verlander (1-1) allowed three runs on seven hits and three walks.

TWINS 4, ORIOLES 3

BALTIMORE (AP) — Aaron Hicks ended an 0-for-13 skid with a tiebreaking RBI single in a two-run seventh inning, rallying the Twins past the Orioles.

J.J. Hardy homered for the Orioles, who dropped the final two games of the weekend set. It was their first series loss to the Twins since July 2010. Trailing 3-2, the Twins started their comeback when Jason Hamel (1-1) plunked Trevor Plouffe on the left elbow leading off the seventh.

Anthony Swarzak (1-0), activated from the disabled list before the game after missing time with broken ribs, pitched 1 1-3 innings of scoreless relief.

Glen Perkins pitched the ninth for his second save.

INDIANS 13, RAYS 0

ST. PETERSBURG, Fla. (AP) — Mark Reynolds and Lonnie Chisenhall hit three-run homers off AL Cy Young Award winner David Price, Justin Masterson pitched seven strong inning and the Indians hammered the Rays. Reynolds homered twice. Carlos Santana had a career-high five hits, including a home run off Fernando Rodney and a pair of doubles. Michael Bourn also homered for the Indians. Price (0-1) gave up eight runs, 10 hits and three walks in five innings. He had been 5-0 with a 1.64 ERA in six career starts against Cleveland.

Masterson (2-0) allowed two hits against a team that's often tagged him. He was 1-7 with a 7.74 ERA in his previous 13 games against Tampa Bay.



Boston Red Sox Will Middlebrooks watches the flight of the ball as he hits a home run off Toronto Blue Jays R.A. Dickey during fifth inning AL baseball action in Toronto on Sunday April 7, 2013.

Associated Press

ATHLETICS 9, ASTROS 3

HOUSTON (AP) — Brett Anderson struck out 10 more Houston batters and the Athletics backed him with three home runs for win and a three-game sweep of the Astros.

Coco Crisp homered for the third straight day, Jed Lowrie again connected against his former team and Chris Young homered in his hometown. The A's sent Houston to its fifth straight loss.

Anderson (1-1) and the A's bullpen combined for 14 strikeouts. The Astros' 74 strikeouts through the first six games are the most in major league history since 1921, STATS said.

Lucas Harrell (0-2) yielded seven hits and eight runs in 4 1-3 innings.

WHITE SOX 4, MARINERS 3, 10 INNINGS

CHICAGO (AP) — Dayan Viciedo hit a solo home

run with one out in the 10th inning Sunday, lifting the Chicago White Sox over the Mariners 4-3. Viciedo hit the first game-ending homer of his career, connecting against Kameron

Loe (1-1).

Alex Rios homered in his career-best third straight game and Adam Dunn also homered for Chicago. Addison Reed (1-0) pitched a scoreless 10th. □



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Continued from page 17

Adam Wainwright (1-1) pitched seven innings, giving up two runs on seven hits for his first win since signing a rich new contract at the end of spring training.

BRAVES 5, CUBS 1

ATLANTA (AP) — Tim Hudson pitched six-plus strong innings and added an RBI and Ramiro Pena hit a two-run single to help the Braves beat the Cubs.

The three-game sweep ended a 5-1 homestand for Atlanta, which got a solo homer from Dan Uggla in the eighth off Hisanori Takahashi.

Hudson (1-0) allowed three hits, one run and two walks in 6 2-3 innings. He struck out seven while improving to 3-1 in seven career starts against the Cubs with a 3.12 ERA.

Jeff Samardzija (1-1) set a career high with 13 strikeouts, but gave up four hits, four runs and four walks in 5 2-3 innings.

METS 4, MARLINS 3

NEW YORK (AP) — Marlon Byrd grounded a two-run single just inside third base in the bottom of the ninth

inning to give the Mets a victory over the Marlins.

Daniel Murphy homered and Anthony Recker had a run-scoring double for the Mets, who spoiled an impressive major league debut by prized Miami pitching prospect Jose Fernandez.

Justin Ruggiano, Chris Valaika and Donovan Solano (three hits) each had an RBI double off substitute starter Aaron Laffey to give the Marlins an early 3-0 cushion. But closer Steve Cishek (0-1) was unable to hold a one-run lead in the ninth, and Miami dropped to 1-5 heading into its home opener Monday night against Atlanta.

The 20-year-old Fernandez, who had never been above Class A, gave up one run and three hits in five innings. He walked one and struck out eight, a record for a Marlins pitcher in his major league debut.

Scott Rice (1-0) worked a scoreless ninth for his first big league win after 14 seasons in the minors.

DIAMONDBACKS 8, BREWERS 7, 11 INNINGS

MILWAUKEE (AP) — Pinch-hitter Eric Hinske belted a long two-run homer in the



Kansas City Royals' Billy Butler (16) runs the bases after hitting a grand slam against the Philadelphia Phillies in the fifth inning of a baseball game on Sunday, April 7, 2013, in Philadelphia.
Associated Press

11th inning and the Diamondbacks beat the Brewers to complete a three-game series sweep.

With Cliff Pennington aboard following a lead-off double, Hinske drove a 1-2 pitch from John Axford (0-1) onto the concourse beyond the wall in center

field. Hinske raised his right arm as he rounded second with his eighth career pinch-hit homer.

Tony Sipp (1-0) struck out two in a perfect 10th inning and Heath Bell held on for his first save after J.J. Putz blew an opportunity in the ninth.

ROCKIES 9, PADRES 1

DENVER (AP) — Dexter Fowler hit an early two-run homer and Jhoulys Chacin pitched effectively into the seventh inning, helping the Rockies to their first sweep of the Padres at Coors Field in 10 years.

Wilin Rosario broke open a tight game with a three-run homer in the seventh as the Rockies improved to 5-1, their best start since 1995 when the Blake Street Bombers began 7-1.

Chacin (1-0) turned in another efficient performance as he allowed one run before being pulled with two outs in the seventh.

Edinson Volquez (0-2) settled down after a shaky first inning in which he allowed three runs, including Fowler's fourth homer of the season. Volquez lasted six innings, giving up four runs and nine hits.

DODGERS 6, PIRATES 2

LOS ANGELES (AP) — Hyun-Jin Ryu earned his first major league victory, shrugging off a two-run homer in the first inning by Andrew McCutchen and pitching the Dodgers past the Pirates for a three-game sweep. □



Retired Toronto Maple Leafs players, from left, Wendell Clark, Lanny McDonald and Darryl Sittler stand with retired Detroit Red Wings players, from left, Joey Kocur, Mickey Redmond and Kris Draper to model the alumni game jerseys for the Winter Classic during an NHL hockey news conference, Sunday, April 7, 2013, in Detroit.

Associated Press

Winter Classic set for Michigan Stadium again

DETROIT (AP) — The Winter Classic between the Toronto Maple Leafs and the Detroit Red Wings at Michigan Stadium, canceled this season due to the NHL lockout, has been rescheduled for Jan. 1 next season. When this year's event was canceled, the league had said it would schedule the next Winter Classic at the

stadium, which holds more than 100,000 people. NHL commissioner Gary Bettman made the official announcement confirming next season's game Sunday before the Red Wings hosted the St. Louis Blues. Also, as originally planned, a sheet of ice will also be placed at Comerica Park, where two alumni games,

American Hockey League, college, high school and youth games will be held in the two weeks leading up to New Year's Day.

The jerseys Detroit and Toronto will wear in the Winter Classic and the ones that will be worn during the alumni games were also unveiled. □

Online translation on the rise, changing lives

MARTHA MENDOZA

AP National Writer

MOUNTAIN VIEW, Calif. (AP)

— You might use Google Translate to read a hard-to-find Manga comic book or to decipher an obscure recipe for authentic Polish blintzes. Or, like Phillip and Niki Smith in rural Mississippi, you could use it to rescue a Chinese orphan and fall in love at the same time.

Google is now doing a record billion translations on any given day, as much text as you'd find in 1 million books for everything from understanding school lunch menus to gathering national security intelligence. It translates in 65 languages, from Afrikaans to Yiddish, and can be used on websites, with speech recognition and as an app on mobile phones even if there is no connection.

While the technology is exponentially evolving, Google's translation guru Franz Och's face lit up when he heard that the Smiths and their new daughter, 14-year-old Guan Ya, are settling into their new lives together this month communicating almost exclusively through Google Translate.

"All day long I look at algorithms, algorithms and algorithms," he said. "It is so rewarding to hear that it is touching lives."

In the Smiths' case, it changed theirs forever.

The Smiths, who already have three children, first spotted Guan Ya less than a year ago when Niki Smith was looking at photos of hard to place orphans online, offering simple prayers for them one by one. With three children of her own, including a 3-year-old daughter adopted from China, she had no intention of adding to her family.

Then she saw Guan Ya.

"She was just our daughter," said Smith of that chance Internet encounter nearly a year ago. "There was no doubt about it, from the first time we saw her on the Internet."

There were seemingly impossible obstacles to

adopting the girl. Firstly, Guan Ya was months away from turning 14, the age at which Chinese law would make her ineligible for adoption. Not only could Guan Ya not speak English, she didn't speak at all.

Guan Ya is deaf.

Undeterred, the Smiths scrambled through the paperwork and home studies that are inherent to international adoptions. With support from both Chinese and U.S. authorities, they expedited the bureaucracy by running a flurry of emails and forms through online translators. And one day Niki Smith received an email from her daughter-to-be, an unintelligible jumble of Chinese characters. "Well, I couldn't begin to read this letter," said Smith. That is where Google Translate came into play. Smith cut and pasted the letter into the empty rectangle for the program in her Internet browser and Guan Ya's thoughts magically appeared.

Thus began their heart-warming virtual conversation of love, family and life. "The computers and software are tools, but I have no doubt that these tools made our bonding so much easier," said Niki Smith.

Machine translation dates back to the end of World War II, when coders realized that cryptography and deciphering were, in part, math problems. In 1949, influential scientist Warren Weaver laid out a pivotal proposition that paved the way for today's computational linguistics: a theorem could be developed to solve the logical structure of languages.

Yet almost 65 years since Weaver wrote that "it seems likely that the problem of translation can be attacked successfully," machine translation is far from perfect.

A team of South African researchers at the Matieland Language Centre recently published a study comparing documents translated between Afrikaans and English by professional translators and then by

Google Translate. The results weren't even close. For the machine-translated writings, "the quality was still below average, and the texts would require extensive post-editing for their function to be met," they found.

"The general public thinks you can stick anything into machine translation and it's going to give you everything you need, but of course that's not the case," says Jamie Lucero, who heads the translation and interpretation program at Bellevue College in Bellevue, Wash.

He said for high quality translations, literature, marketing materials or complex syntax, a human translator is still essential. But machines are helpful, he said, "for people who just want to get a basic message across."

And he said some machine translators are better than others.

While translate.google.com leads the market, Microsoft's www.bing.com/translator offers a similar, free service with 41 languages that users say outperforms Google's when it comes to language used in high tech and software. WorldLingo is emerging as a leading pay-for-use translator with machine and professional translations in more than 140 languages, for people who require accuracy.

But any translation is a huge leap for communication, said Jennifer Uman, who co-authored a children's picture book, "Jemmy Button," with Italian collaborator Valerio Vidali, published this week. They met and then communicated for almost five years on the project almost exclusively through Google Translate. Initially, she said, the translations were strange. Uman would write, "It looks great," and Vidali would read "I hoist much illusion." "But over the years Google Translate got better and we got better," she said. "We kind of got the hang of how to use it, and it made it possible for us to collaborate." □



In this April 4, 2013 photograph, 14-year-old Guan Ya Smith, shows off her iPod, that through Google Translate, allows her to communicate with her new adoptive family at their Rienzi, Miss., home. Associated Press



In this April 4, 2013 photograph, Phillip Smith's message to his new daughter, 14-year-old Guan Ya, is translated to Chinese using Google Translate in his laptop on Rienzi, Miss. Associated Press

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Economic Reports For This Week

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REPORTS

Data to be released include wholesale trade for February (Tuesday); weekly jobless claims and import prices for March (Thursday); and retail sales for March, the Producer Price Index for March, the Thomson Reuters/University of Michigan consumer sentiment index for April and business inventories for February (Friday).

EARNINGS

Companies scheduled to release quarterly results include Alcoa (Monday); Constellation Brands and Bed Bath & Beyond (Wednesday); Rite Aid (Thursday); and JPMorgan Chase and Wells Fargo (Friday).

UNITED STATES

On Monday, Ben S. Bernanke, the Federal Reserve chairman, will give the keynote address to the Federal Reserve Bank of Atlanta's 2013 Financial Markets Conference; a federal judge will consider Citigroup's \$590 million settlement of a class-action lawsuit accusing it of hiding tens of billions of dollars of toxic mortgage assets; and Macy's and J.C. Penney face a deadline to reach a settlement regarding the sale of Martha Stewart merchandise or resume a trial.

On Tuesday, the Oakland, Calif., City Council votes on whether to continue doing business with Goldman Sachs after the bank refused to drop a \$14.8 million fee to let the city out of an interest-rate swap.

On Wednesday, Christine Lagarde, the managing director of the International Monetary Fund, will speak to the Economic Club of New York; and the Federal Open Market Committee will release the minutes of its March 19-20 meeting.

On Thursday, a Senate Banking subcommittee will conduct a hearing about the role of independent consultants in the review of foreclosures. □

Dropouts:

Discouraged Americans leave labor force

JESSE WASHINGTON
PAUL WISEMAN

Associated Press

WASHINGTON (AP) — After a full year of fruitless job hunting, Natasha Baebler just gave up. She had already abandoned hope of getting work in her field, working with the disabled. But she couldn't land anything else, either — not even a job interview at a telephone call center. Until she feels confident enough to send out resumes again, she'll get by on food stamps and disability checks from Social Security and live with her parents in St. Louis. "I'm not proud of it," says Baebler, who is in her mid-30s and is blind. "The only way I'm able to sustain any semblance of self-preservation is to rely on government programs that I have no desire to be on."

Baebler's frustrating experience has become all too common nearly four years after the Great Recession ended: Many Americans are still so discouraged that they've given up on the job market. Older Americans have retired early. Younger ones have enrolled in school. Others have suspended their job hunt until the employment landscape brightens. Some, like Baebler, are collecting disability checks.

It isn't supposed to be this way. After a recession, an improving economy is supposed to bring people back into the job market. Instead, the number of Americans in the labor force — those who have a job or are looking for one — fell by nearly half a million people from February to March, the government said Friday. And the percentage of working-age adults in the labor force — what's called the participation rate — fell to 63.3 percent last month. It's the lowest such figure since May 1979.

The falling participation rate tarnished the only apparent good news in the jobs report the Labor De-

partment released Friday: The unemployment rate dropped to a four-year low of 7.6 percent in March from 7.7 in February. People without a job who stop looking for one are no longer counted as unemployed. That's why the U.S. unemployment rate dropped in March despite weak hiring. If the 496,000 who left the labor force last month had still been looking for jobs, the unemployment rate would have risen to 7.9 percent in March.

81.1 percent last month, tied with November for the lowest since December 1984.

"It's the lack of job opportunities — the lack of demand for workers — that is keeping these workers from working or seeking work," says Heidi Shierholz, an economist at the liberal Economic Policy Institute. The Labor Department says there are still more than three unemployed people for every job opening.

Cynthia Marriott gave up

leaves her weak and unable to work a full day. The application is pending a medical review.

"I feel like I have no choice," says Marriott, 47. "It's just really sad and frightening"

During the peak of her job search, Marriott was filling out 10 applications a day. She applied for jobs she felt overqualified for, such as those at Home Depot and Petco retail stores but never heard back. Eventually, the disappointment



A help wanted sign at a barber shop in Richmond, Va. U.S. employers added just 88,000 jobs in March, the fewest in nine months and a sharp retreat after a period of strong hiring. Many discouraged Americans are giving up the job hunt for school, retirement and disability.

(AP Photo/Steve Helber)

"Unemployment dropped for all the wrong reasons," says Craig Alexander, chief economist with TD Bank Financial Group. "It dropped because more workers stopped looking for jobs. It signaled less confidence and optimism that there are jobs out there."

The participation rate peaked at 67.3 percent in 2000, reflecting an influx of women into the work force. It's been falling steadily ever since.

Part of the drop reflects the baby boom generation's gradual move into retirement. But such demographics aren't the whole answer.

Even Americans of prime working age — 25 to 54 years old — are dropping out of the workforce. Their participation rate fell to

her job search after an interview in October for a position as a hotel concierge.

"They never said no," she says. "They just never called me back."

Her husband hasn't worked full time since 2006. She cashed out her tax-deferred retirement savings account after being laid off from a job at a Los Angeles entertainment publicity firm in 2009. The couple owes thousands in taxes for that withdrawal. They have no health insurance.

She got the maximum 99 weeks' of unemployment benefits then allowed in California and then moved to Atlanta. Now she is looking to receive federal disability benefits for a lung condition that she said

and fatigue got to her.

"I just wanted a job," she says. "I couldn't really go on anymore looking for a job."

Young people are leaving the job market, too. The participation rate for Americans ages 20 to 24 hit a 41-year low 69.6 percent last year before bouncing back a bit. Many young people have enrolled in community colleges and universities. That's one reason a record 63 percent of adults ages 25 to 29 have spent at least some time in college, according to the Pew Research Center.

Older Americans are returning to school, too. Doug Damato, who lives in Asheville, North Carolina, lost his job as an installer at a utility company in February 2012. □

Official: Toyota to pay \$16M settlement

SHAYA MOHAJER

Associated Press

LOS ANGELES (AP) — A \$16 million settlement over the safety recall of Toyota vehicles that were at risk for unintended acceleration and braking issues was announced over the weekend by Orange County prosecutors and Toyota Motor Corp.

The suit was one of a flood of cases brought against the automaker after more than 14 million vehicles were recalled in 2009 and 2010 — many of them still waiting to be heard or settled.

In the lawsuit, Orange County District Attorney Tony Rackauckas claimed deceptive business practices, alleging Toyota had concealed safety issues related to its floor mats and “sticky” gas pedal issues. The suit sought \$2,500 per violation under California’s consumer protection laws. Under the settlement, Toyota continues to deny all the claims made in the suit.

“Having addressed floor mat and ‘sticky pedal’ issues with effective and durable solutions, we are gratified that Toyota vehicles are once again widely recognized as among the safest and most reliable on the road,” Christopher P. Reynolds, an attorney and vice president for Toyota, said in a statement.

In the past, the carmaker blamed driver error, faulty floor mats and stuck accelerator pedals for the problems.

A highway tragedy in suburban San Diego sparked the recalls and numerous lawsuits against the Japanese carmaker.

An off-duty California Highway Patrol officer and three family members were killed after he lost control of the car, a Toyota-built Lexus, in a grisly accident. The car reached speeds of more than 120 mph (193 kph) before it hit an SUV, launched off an embankment, rolled several times and burst into flames.

DOJ closing in on AB InBev-Modelo deal

The Associated Press

WASHINGTON (AP) - Anheuser-Busch InBev has reached a tentative agreement with the Department of Justice over its disputed \$20.1 billion acquisition of Mexican brewer Grupo Modelo.

The world’s largest brewer has been trying since June to buy the half of Grupo Modelo that it doesn’t already own. The Justice Department sued to block the deal on concerns that it would stifle competition in the U.S.

In an effort to appease regulators, AB InBev subsequently struck a side deal that gives control of the production of Corona and other Modelo beers sold in the U.S. to smaller competitor Constellation Brands Inc.

The companies involved in the complicated series of deals have since been in talks with the Department of Justice about a possible resolution.

AB InBev, Grupo Modelo and Constellation said over the weekend that the proposed resolution is in line with the revised deal.

The companies and the Department of Justice are asking the court to extend a stay of proceedings until April 23 to finalize the details necessary for a settlement.

The Department of Justice, in confirming the agreement in principle Friday, reiterated that any settlement would have to fully protect U.S. consumers by preserving the competition that Grupo Modelo currently provides, while giving a buyer of the divestiture the freedom and capability to compete vigorously in the future.

Your Portfolio: Overseas finances can trip up Americans

PAUL SULLIVAN

© 2013 New York Times

Living and working abroad may sound romantic. But having a financial life in more than one country — if one of those countries is the United States — is becoming increasingly complicated. Managing an international financial life was once solely the purview of the super-rich, who jetted around the world. But given the still-high unemployment rate in the United States, opportunities for middle-class jobs abroad, in areas like finance, oil and construction, are becoming more appealing.

working abroad or with a financial life in two countries manage their finances?

BASIC CONFUSION

One of the great enemies of people working abroad is bad advice. That is a problem anywhere, but there are fewer sources to counter misinformation thousands of miles from home.

For example, Americans working abroad are eligible for the foreign earned income exclusion, which in 2012 exempted the first \$95,100 from tax. But even if Americans earn less than that or are paying higher taxes in the country where

transfer the money to a friend who was not an U.S. citizen and have that person transfer it back to them as a gift to avoid the penalties from years of not paying their taxes.

“I said, ‘You can do it, but it’s illegal,’” Comisky said. “That’s pure tax evasion.”

There is also the issue of other countries’ taxes that the United States does not recognize. Marylouise Serrato, executive director of American Citizens Abroad, a lobbying group, said many wealth, social and value-added taxes in Europe were not eligible for credits or deductions on U.S. taxes.

“They could be a significant part of your foreign tax bill, but you can’t apply them to your U.S. taxes, so you just pay them,” she said.

While making mistakes on taxes is common, Frank Reilly, president of Reilly Financial Advisors, which has had an office in Saudi Arabia since the 1970s, said people working abroad also often made poor financial decisions about real estate.

With homes in the United States, there are two common problems. One is the logistical challenge of renting out a home you own from thousands of miles away. The other is deciding to buy a retirement home somewhere in the United States when you plan to work abroad for many more years. By the time you stop working, you may not want to live there.

“I always advise people to go as slowly as possible with buying real estate,” Reilly said.

The most financially destructive real estate problem comes when income and mortgage payments are in different currencies.

“When someone in the United States takes out a mortgage, they know that their payment is \$1,300,” Reilly said.

“When they take out a mortgage in euros, it could be 1,300 euros.



Chuck Crew, a chemical engineer, at his home in Minneapolis, Minn., April 3, 2013. Crew and his wife worked in Saudi Arabia for 36 years and knew they were not able to count on social security.

(Ben Garvin/The New York Times)

By taking those jobs, though, many middle- and upper-middle-class Americans have found it more and more difficult to comply with requirements on reporting the existence and value of bank accounts overseas and reconciling the taxes of different countries.

At the same time, Americans from immigrant families who have bank accounts in their home countries that they may have overlooked are being swept up by the same laws used to ferret out millionaires and billionaires stashing money in secret Swiss accounts. The Internal Revenue Service has increased its examination of such accounts, lawyers said, with serious penalties for those who have not reported them.

So how should Americans

they are working, they still need to file a tax return with the IRS.

“Some think if you’re paying taxes in Germany and the Netherlands and the taxes are higher than in the U.S., you don’t have to file a return,” said Ian M. Comisky, a partner at the law firm Blank Rome and co-author of “Tax Fraud and Evasion.” “That’s not accurate. You have to file a U.S. return, and you get a credit for it.”

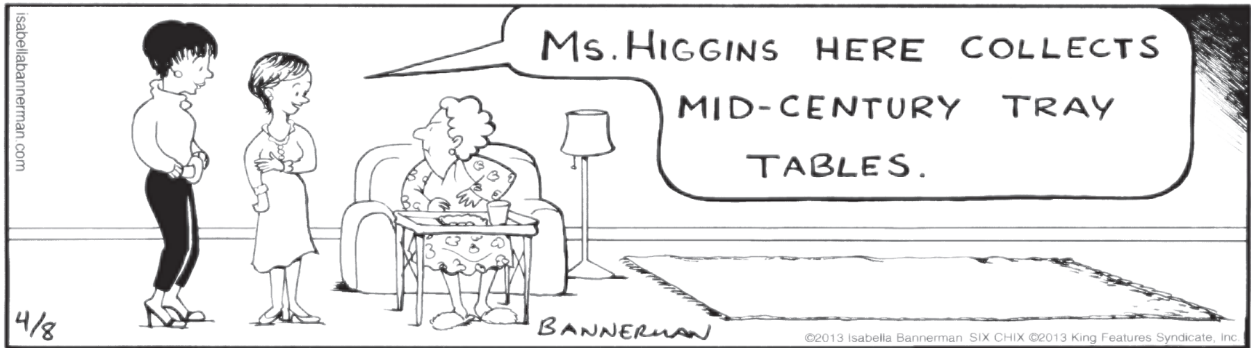
Increased IRS scrutiny of bank accounts abroad under the Foreign Account Tax Compliance Act, which began to take effect this year, means foreign banks must report more information on American account holders. Comisky said he had received calls from people with undeclared overseas accounts who asked whether they could

Continued on page 27

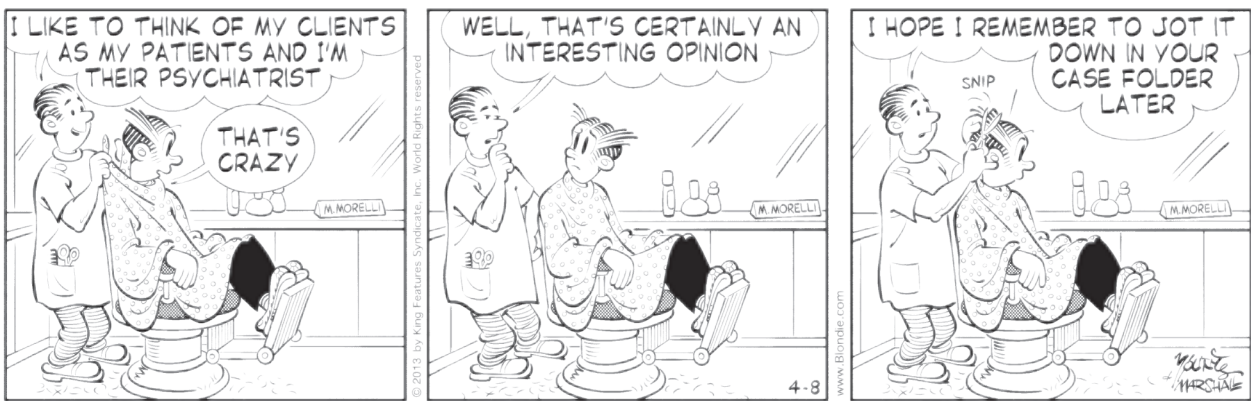
Mutts



6 Chix



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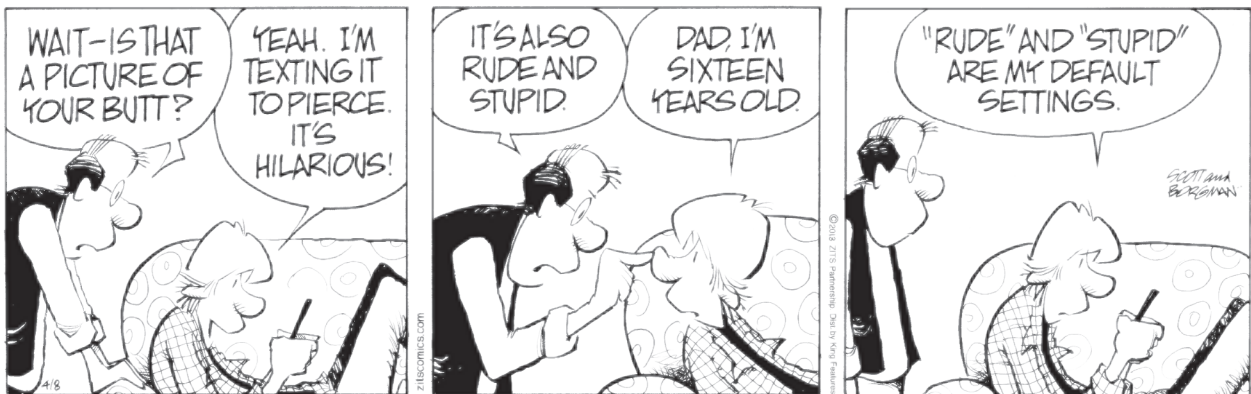
Mother Goose & Grimm



Baby Blues



Zits



Conceptis Sudoku

	4			7	6		
8		6		4		3	
	2	7					8
			4	8			3
	9		7		6		4
2				1	3		
4						8	1
	5			3		2	4
		1	5			6	

Difficulty Level ★ 4/08

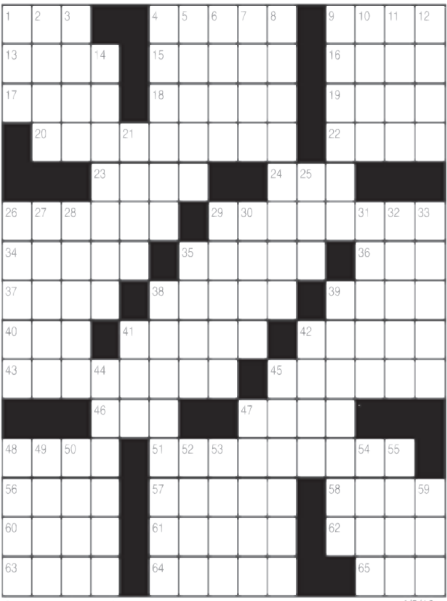
Sudoku is a number-placing puzzle based on a 9x9 grid with several given numbers. The object is to place the numbers 1 to 9 in the empty squares so that each row, each column and each 3x3 box contains the same number only once. The difficulty level of the Conceptis Sudoku increases from Monday to Sunday.

Saturday's puzzle answer

3	1	7	4	5	2	8	9	6
6	5	8	9	7	1	4	3	2
4	2	9	8	3	6	7	1	5
5	9	4	6	1	7	2	8	3
1	3	6	5	2	8	9	7	4
8	7	2	3	4	9	5	6	1
7	4	5	1	8	3	6	2	9
2	6	1	7	9	4	3	5	8
9	8	3	2	6	5	1	4	7

ACROSS

- 1 Pub order
- 4 Marsupial that eats eucalyptus leaves
- 9 Schnoz
- 13 Totals
- 15 Cruise ship stops, perhaps
- 16 Hideous
- 17 Peak
- 18 Reads over
- 19 Redwood or dogwood
- 20 Nepal's capital
- 22 Cat cries
- 23 Wedding cake level
- 24 Actress West
- 26 Carve
- 29 Tiny amounts
- 34 Pathways
- 35 Get on one's feet
- 36 Cut off
- 37 Inserts
- 38 Object; article
- 39 One of Jacob's twelve sons
- 40 Buzzing insect
- 41 Mortgages, e.g.
- 42 Friender
- 43 Three-of-a-kind beater
- 45 ___-bustle; commotion
- 46 Actor Marvin
- 47 Soft fabric
- 48 Insincerely smooth
- 51 Breathing
- 56 Part of the ear
- 57 Ethiopia's ___ Selassie
- 58 ___ as a pin
- 60 At any time
- 61 TV's Pompeo
- 62 Strong wind
- 63 Bank teller's cry
- 64 Tall marsh grasses
- 65 Galloped



Created by Jacqueline E. Mathews 4/8/13

Saturday's Puzzle Solved

BABE	PLOTS	CAGE
AWED	RENAL	OVER
DANS	EVERYTHING	
EYE	APES	RODEO
	FOCAL	PAR
SCANTY	HUSTON	
PACTS	PEACH	RUM
INTO	PLANK	LIKE
TOO	GOURD	RAGES
ERRING	LAVISH	
	OLD	BEGAN
ABDUL	BIDS	AWL
REASSURING	FLEA	
CAFE	SINGER	ALAN
HUTS	EDGER	TYKE

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DOWN

- 1 Skinny ___ rail
- 2 Good fortune
- 3 Actress Samms
- 4 Fate
- 5 Movie award
- 6 Actor Alda
- 7 Give for a time
- 8 Taking for granted
- 9 Egg nog topper
- 10 Bad guy
- 11 Murdered
- 12 Watches
- 14 ___ for; is content with
- 21 Joints nearest the waist
- 25 Find a sum
- 26 Thick slices
- 27 West Point student
- 28 Beneath
- 29 Short period of time at a job
- 30 ___ best friend; dog
- 31 Vote into office
- 32 Work of fiction
- 33 Steeple
- 35 Old title for an Iranian leader
- 38 Come ___; unite

- 39 Leaning to one side
- 41 Whopper
- 42 No longer valid
- 44 Mr. Einstein
- 45 Washington's Mount St. ___
- 47 Used an emery board
- 48 Secluded valley
- 49 Elvis' "___ Me Tender"
- 50 Mountain goat
- 52 Robust
- 53 Irritate
- 54 Within reach
- 55 Celebration
- 59 X on the clock

Continued from page 25

That could be \$1,500 or \$1,800 or \$2,300. They're exposed to currency fluctuations."

Reilly said he counseled clients to imagine what a shift in the exchange rate could mean to them and asked some to consider putting many months of payments in that currency as a hedge.

ACCOUNT COMPLICATIONS

While new U.S. reporting requirements are meant to catch tax evaders, they are causing problems for people who are simply making a living abroad.

Serrato said her group had heard of many instances of Americans abroad having their accounts closed in the United States because the banks did not want to deal with the reporting requirements.

On the other end, she has heard that opening accounts in different countries has become more difficult.

"We support the crack-down on tax evasion, but there has been a lot of blanket legislation put out there that can hit the unknowing or the unwitting," she said.

Foreign pension plans, for instance, are not considered tax-exempt under U.S. law.

Americans are required to report the plans to the IRS as they would bank or investment accounts. Failure to do so carries harsh penalties.

"If you're a person who didn't know your pension account needed to be reported but you reported your checking and savings account," Serrato said, "now you're faced with criminal penalties for a filing error and you could end up paying

a penalty that could wipe out 50 percent of that account."

The IRS put a streamlined procedure in place in September for people working abroad who owe less than \$1,500 in back taxes on these plans. People who owe more than that will be treated as "higher risk" cases, the IRS said.

There is now a third, voluntary disclosure program in place for people with unreported money offshore. But now that the offshore inquiry has gone beyond traditional tax havens like Switzerland, lawyers said that immigrants and their children were coming under scrutiny.

The increased attention on the Middle East and Asia for tax evaders – or terrorist financiers – is raising concern among people who have accounts in their home countries that they never thought to declare in the United States.

Robert J. Kipnees, a partner at the law firm Lowenstein Sandler, said he had recently worked with two clients who had accounts at Bank Leumi in Israel, after the bank notified them that the IRS was asking for all of its account information on U.S. citizens.

"It's not just high-net-worth people," he said.

"You have people who are first- and second-generation Americans whose families left money behind in the old country and they did not know they had an interest in the account."

Proper-planning Americans who spend their entire career working abroad will also probably not be eligible for much, if anything, from Social Security since they cannot contribute to it while working abroad.

This puts a premium on saving on their own and creating a realistic financial plan. □

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Antarctic team digs deep to predict climate future

NICK PERRY

ROD McGUIRK

Associated Press

WELLINGTON, New Zealand

(AP) — Nancy Bertler and her team took a freezer to the coldest place on Earth, endured weeks of primitive living and risked spending the winter in Antarctic darkness, to go get ice — ice that records our climate's past and could point to its future.

They drilled out hundreds of ice cores, each slightly longer and wider than a baseball bat, from the half-mile-thick ice covering Antarctica's Roosevelt Island. The cores, which may total 150,000 years of snowfall, almost didn't survive the boat ride to New Zealand because of a power outage.

Bertler hopes the material will help her estimate how long the Ross Ice Shelf would last under the current rate of climate change before falling apart.

Evidence from the last core her team hauled out needs further study, but it contains material that Bertler said appeared to be marine sediment that formed recently — at least in geological terms measured in thousands of years.

That would bolster scientists' suspicions that the shelf could collapse again if global temperatures keep rising, triggering a chain of events that could raise sea levels around the world.

"From a scientific point of view, that's really exciting. From a personal point of view, that's really scary," said Bertler, a senior research fellow at the Antarctic Research Centre at the Victoria University of Wellington.

The ice shelf acts as a natural barrier protecting



In this Dec. 4, 2012 photo released by scientist Nancy Bertler, scientists and staff work on ice cores they've collected on Roosevelt Island, Antarctica. The continent's pristine habitat provides a laboratory for scientists studying the effects of climate change.

Associated Press



In this Dec. 4, 2012 photo released by scientist Nancy Bertler, scientists and staff work on ice cores they've collected on Roosevelt Island, Antarctica. The continent's pristine habitat provides a laboratory for scientists studying the effects of climate change.

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massive amounts of ice in West Antarctica, and that ice also could fall into the ocean if the shelf fell apart. Scientists say West Antarctica holds enough ice to raise sea levels by between 2 meters (6.5 feet) and 6 meters (20 feet) if significant parts of it were to collapse.

Ted Scambos, the lead scientist at the National Snow and Ice Data Center at the University of Colorado, said that even under the worst case scenario he thinks it would take at least 500 years for West Antarctica's ice to melt.

However, he said a discovery of sediment would indicate a significant portion of the ice shelf is under threat of becoming unstable again, and that the implications were "huge."

Bertler hopes the material she recovered will help her to estimate by the end of this year whether it will take 50 years or 500 years for the ice shelf to collapse at the current rate of climate change.

Those answers should prove important for policymakers who, she said, may need to decide whether to build sea walls or move populations to higher ground.

Bertler's project is one of scores that take place on Antarctica every Southern Hemisphere summer. To scientists, the continent's pristine habitat offers a unique record of the planet's weather and a laboratory for studying the effects of climate change.

Studies indicate that while the Arctic has suffered what scientists consider to be alarming rates of ice loss in recent years, the Antarctic ice shelf has remained relatively stable despite having lost ice in recent decades.

Research in Antarctica creates huge logistical and personal challenges.

Bertler's camp on Roosevelt Island is a three-hour flight from the nearest permanent Antarctic outposts, Scott Base and McMurdo Station. The island is surrounded by the Ross Ice Shelf, the world's largest mass of floating ice, covering an area the size of Spain.

Even during the spring and summer months when Bertler's team was working there, the temperature sometimes dropped to minus 25 C (minus 13 F) and there were frequent storms and thick fog.

At one point bad weather

even compelled logistics experts to prepare a plan to keep the 14-member team there through the Antarctic winter, four months of almost total darkness and temperatures that can drop to minus 60 C (minus 76 F).

The weather improved, but the round-the-clock daylight of the Antarctic summer is grueling enough. Bertler, 42, who has spent nearly every summer there for 14 years, says its boundless frontiers can feel like a prison, though she has grown to love the exceptional landscape.

While on the island, the team's only form of communication was three satellite phones. Every person carried a GPS unit in case he or she got lost in the fog or storms.

The crew worked 10-hour shifts, read, occasionally skied cross-country. Some found it difficult to sleep in permanent daylight. "Everything becomes quite primal, in a way," Bertler said.

"You're just thinking about your daily survival, being safe, and doing the work that you're there to do."

The team used a sophisticated drill to collect cylinders or cores of ice. To ensure the samples stayed cold enough to get safely to New Zealand, the team had to do something that seemed counterintuitive: import a freezer to Antarctica.

Still, the thousands of years of history collected in the ice cores almost melted away on the voyage home, when huge waves knocked out power to the freezer and swamped a backup generator. It was 36 hours before a technician could get on deck and restore power. The cores consist of sandwich-like layers of ice, formed when annual snowfall compacts to a fraction of its original depth.

Bertler said she believes most of the ice she has collected is less than 40,000 years old, although the final pieces near the rock bottom could be up to 150,000 years old. □

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'Evil Dead' rises again with \$26M box-office stake

DAVID GERMAIN

AP Movie Writer

LOS ANGELES (AP) — Resurrected demons and dinosaurs are helping to put some life back into the weekend box office.

The demonic horror remake "Evil Dead" debuted at No. 1 with \$26 million, according to studio estimates Sunday.

In a tight fight for second-place were two holdovers, the animated comedy "The Croods" and the action movie "G.I. Joe: Retaliation," both with an estimated \$21.1 million. Final numbers Monday will sort out which movie comes out ahead.

Steven Spielberg's 3-D debut of his dinosaur blockbuster "Jurassic Park" came in fourth with \$18.2 million. That's on top of the \$357.1 million domestic haul for "Jurassic Park" in its initial run in 1993.

Released by Sony's TriStar Pictures, "Evil Dead" added \$4.5 million in 21 overseas markets, giving it a worldwide start of \$30.5 million. Shot on a modest budget of \$17 million, the movie is well on its way to turning a profit.

The remake was produced by the 1983 original's filmmakers, director Sam Raimi and producer Rob Tapert, and its star, Bruce Campbell. The new "Evil Dead" lays the gore on thickly for the story of a group of friends terrorized and possessed by demons during a trip to a cabin in the woods.

"It's one crazy ride, that movie. I have to think Sam Raimi is so proud in remaking this film that it turned out so well," said Rory Bruer, head of distribution for Sony. "It's such a visceral ride, where you're holding on to your seat or holding on to the person next to you."

Paramount's "G.I. Joe" se-

quel, which had been No. 1 the previous weekend, pushed its domestic total to \$86.7 million. The movie also added \$40.2 million overseas for an international haul of \$145.2 million and a worldwide take of \$232 million.

"The Croods," a DreamWorks Animation release distributed by 20th Century Fox, raised its domestic total to \$125.8 million after three weekends. Overseas, the movie did an additional \$34.1 million to lift its international total to \$206.8 million and its worldwide receipts to \$333 million.

Universal Pictures' "Jurassic Park" reissue opened in a similar range of other recent blockbuster 3-D releases such as "Titanic" (\$17.3 million) and "Star Wars: Episode I — The Phantom Menace" (\$22.4 million).

None of the new movies or holdovers came close to the domestic business being done a year ago by "The Hunger Games," which led over the same weekend in 2012 with \$33.1 million in its third weekend. But collectively, Hollywood had a winning lineup of movies that gave revenues a lift from last year.

Domestic receipts totaled \$134 million, up 8.5 percent from the first weekend of April a year ago, according to box-office tracker Hollywood.com. That uptick comes after three-straight weekends of declining revenue and a quiet first quarter in which domestic business has totaled \$2.47 billion, down 11.4 percent from the same point in 2012.

Hollywood set a record with \$10.8 billion domestically last year, and 2013's releases so far have been unable to match up. Studios are counting on a strong start to the summer season as "Iron Man 3"



This film image released by Sony-TriStar Pictures shows Jane Levy in a scene from "Evil Dead."

Associated Press

arrives the first weekend in May and such sequels as "Star Trek: Into Darkness," "The Hangover Part III" and "Fast & Furious 6" quickly follow.

"When you have a record box-office year like we did in 2012, every weekend in 2013 is becoming a challenge to best or even equal what we did

the year before," said Hollywood.com analyst Paul Dergarabedian. "The summer movie season can't come a moment too soon. We definitely need it." □

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'Over You' powers Lambert to 3 early ACMs wins

CHRIS TALBOTT

AP Music Writer

LAS VEGAS (AP) — "Over You" is the song that keeps on giving as Miranda Lambert and Blake Shelton won twice for the deeply personal song they co-wrote at the Academy of Country Music Awards.

The song and single record of the year wins vaulted Lambert into the lead with three trophies midway through the show and moved ACMs co-host Shelton into a three-way tie with Eric Church, Little Big Town and Florida Georgia Line with two trophies apiece.

"Over You," written by the couple about Shelton's late brother, won song of the year at the Country Music Association Awards last November as well.

"As a songwriter, having your song and your lyrics recognized by your peers is pretty much as good as it gets. And I'm so thankful for being in this genre of country music, every single time someone's nominated, I just cheer, because I love everybody to death. So thank you for accepting me as a song writer, not just as a singer, because that means the world to me," she said.



Miranda Lambert, right, and Blake Shelton accept the award for song of the year for "Over You" at the 48th Annual Academy of Country Music Awards at the MGM Grand Garden Arena in Las Vegas on Sunday, April 7, 2013.

Church's lived up to his nickname "Chief" as he won album of the year for the album of the same name.

This year's top nominee also won vocal event of the year for his collaboration with Luke Bryan and Jason Aldean on "The Only Way I Know" and performed his somber but powerful song "Like Jesus Does" with only an acoustic guitar and a

backup singer.

"I can't believe I just met John Fogerty," Church said as he accepted the album award from the Creedence Clearwater Revival frontman and Lambert. "We should hang out later."

Little Big Town had two wins for vocal group and video of the year. Florida Georgia Line won for new artist and were previous winners in the new vocal duo/group

category. And husband and wife Shawna and Keifer Thompson continued their feel-good story as Thompson Square won its second straight vocal duo of the year award.

Shawna Thompson gave a shoutout to her mother from stage.

Tears came to her eyes backstage as she explained that her father had recently passed away and

she wanted to acknowledge her mother during her acceptance speech to support her.

"She's just having a really hard time," she said.

Shelton kicked the show off with his new single "Boys 'Round Here," a hip-hop-flavored ode to redneck swag. He was joined by Luke Bryan, Brad Paisley, Sheryl Crow and Pistol Anies, a trio that includes his wife Miranda Lambert.

George Strait made his first appearance of the night, singing "Give It All We Got Tonight."

Lady Antebellum debuted new song "Downtown" and Charles Kelley finished off the song by rubbing pregnant trio-mate Hillary Scott's belly. Carrie Underwood stepped out of a black Cadillac parked on stage as she started her song, "Two Black Cadillacs."

Lambert appeared later with a fiery, diamond-studded rendition of her recent hit "Mama's Broken Heart." The night was a showcase for country's men of the moment — and for its two dominant male stars of the last two decades, the marquee meeting of Brooks and Strait.

Associated Press

Fashion designer Lilly Pulitzer dies at 81

JENNIFER KAY

Associated Press

MIAMI (AP) — Lilly Pulitzer, a Palm Beach socialite turned fashion designer whose tropical print dresses became a sensation in the 1960s and later a fashion classic, died Sunday. She was 81.

Her death was confirmed by Gale Schiffman of Quattlebaum Funeral and Cremation Services in West Palm Beach. She did not know Pulitzer's cause of death.

Pulitzer, who married into the famous newspaper family, got her start in fashion by spilling orange juice on her clothes. A rich housewife with time to spare and a husband who owned orange groves, she opened a juice stand in 1959 and asked her seam-

stress to make dresses in colorful prints that would camouflage fruit stains.

The dresses hung on a pipe behind her juice stand and soon outsold her drinks. The company's dresses, developed with the help of partner Laura Robbins, a former fashion editor, soon caught on.

"Lilly has been a true inspiration to us and we will miss her," according to a statement on the Lilly Pulitzer brand Facebook page.

Jacqueline Kennedy, who attended boarding school with Pulitzer, even wore one of the sleeveless shifts in a Life magazine photo spread.

The signature Lilly palette features tongue-in-cheek jungle and floral prints in blues, pinks, light greens, yellow and orange — the



FILE -In this Thursday, April 15, 2004, file photo, Designer Lilly Pulitzer, smiles during an interview in her clothing company's Manhattan fashion district offices. Pulitzer, known for her tropical print dresses, died in Florida at 81 on Sunday, April 7, 2013.

Associated Press

colors of a Florida vacation. "I designed collections around whatever struck my fancy ... fruits, vegetables, politics, or peacocks! I entered in with no business sense.

was a total change of life for me, but it made people happy," Pulitzer told The Associated Press in March 2009.

The line of dresses that bore

her name was later expanded to swimsuits, country club attire, children's clothing, a home collection and a limited selection of menswear.

"Style isn't just about what you wear, it's about how you live," Pulitzer said in 2004. "We focus on the best, fun and happy things, and people want that. Being happy never goes out of style," she said.

But changing taste brought trouble. Pulitzer closed her original company in the mid-1980s after filing for bankruptcy protection. The label was revived about a decade later after being acquired by Sugartown Worldwide Inc.; Pulitzer was only marginally involved in the new business but continued reviewing new prints from Florida.

Happily After Never?



MAUREEN DOWD
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I'm worried about the Supreme Court.

I'm worried about how the justices can properly debate same-sex marriage when some don't even seem to realize that most Americans use the word "gay" now instead of "homosexual"; when Chief Justice John Roberts thinks gays are merely concerned with marriage as a desirable "label"; and when Justice Samuel Alito compares gay marriage to cellphones. The Nine are back there in their Miss Havisham lairs mulling, disconcertingly disconnected. In his zeal to scare people about the "possible deleterious effect" of gay parents adopting, Justice Antonin Scalia did not seem fully cognizant that gays and lesbians can have their own biological children.

Max Mutchnick, who created and wrote "Will & Grace" with David Kohan, is worried as well. His landmark show came up as a cultural marker during the court proceedings challenging Prop 8. When I was in California covering that trial in 2010, I spent time in Los Angeles with Max, his husband, Erik Hyman, an entertainment lawyer, and their bewitching twin daughters born through a surrogate, Evan and Rose. (In an amazing biological feat, both men fertilized the eggs, so that one daughter looks like Erik and one like Max.) Erik told me then that taking vows in front of a rabbi and their families (two weeks before Prop 8 passed) made him feel different. "Now that I'm actually married," he said, "it drives me completely crazy when the other side talks about 'the sanctity of marriage.' I'm committed to my spouse. We're faithful to each other. We're raising twin girls together. It's deeply offensive to hear someone say that what we're doing is robbing them of the 'sanctity' of what they're doing, as though my very existence is unholy."

On Sunday, stealing a moment in the midst of taking Evan and Rose to a West Hollywood park and a stage version of "Beauty and the Beast" at the Pantages, Max emailed me about how discouraged he felt after last week's arguments at the Supreme Court: "I'm like every other dad in this park: horn-rimmed glasses and baseball

bat, New York Times folded in quarters, ignoring my kids dressed in Ralph Lauren Collection playing. But the difference is, every day I open the paper and read about the fact that I'm just kind of gross, according to a lot of people. It's such an odd thing to live with. I'm so tired of it."

I asked Max to elaborate. This is what he wrote:

One of my favorite episodes of "Will & Grace" was "Homo for the Holidays," the story of Jack coming out to his mother. The gang finds out that Jack is not the 'out and proud' poster child that he pretends to be, but, in fact, has been telling his mother that Grace was his ex-girlfriend. Will confronts his best friend about his lying and pointedly asks Jack, "Aren't you tired yet?" I believe if you're a homosexual of a certain age or one born on the wrong block in this country, your first steps are inextricably fused with lying. It makes the journey of life much heavier. Like Jack, I eventually grew tired of lying and came out to everyone. Now, however, I find myself tired of telling the truth.

It's tiring being a member of the last group in America subject to official discrimination. If the gay civil rights movement were a musical comedy, it might be titled "A Funny Thing Happened on the Way to the Supreme Court." More and more people think it's wrong to hate gays. The support for same-sex marriage now exceeds the opposition to it. According to Rick Santorum, that's all because of "Will & Grace." (Thanks, cutie. DVD sales are way up!) But, if the good guys are on my side, why do I feel so depleted? I live in a place where all men are created equal, but, for some reason, I am not afforded the same rights. Should my take-away be: I am not a man? It feels as though the Supreme Court is OK with that notion. This court is speaking some of the same language that was being used before Stonewall.

Justice Alito raised the question of whether or not it's too soon to allow gay people to marry. Is it better to keep doing what's wrong until people are good and ready to do what's right? Scalia uses the word "homosexual" the way George Wallace used the word "Negro." There's a tone to it. It's humiliating and hurtful. I don't think I'm being overly sensitive, merely vigilant. I once had to be vigilant for fear that people would find out what I am. Now I have to be vigilant for fear that I will be discriminated against for what I am. Then, as now, it's a defense against danger. No wonder I'm tired. I'm committed to fighting this battle until the war is won. I owe it to my inner gay child and my daughters. As Dr. King said, "The arc of the moral universe is long, but it bends toward justice." It's the long part that's kicking my butt. □



Comparing My Little (Global) School



THOMAS L. FRIEDMAN
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There was a time when middle-class parents in America could be — and were — content to know that their kids' public schools were better than those in the next neighborhood over. As the world has shrunk, though, the next neighborhood over is now Shanghai or Helsinki. So, last August, I wrote a column quoting Andreas Schleicher — who runs the global exam that compares how 15-year-olds in public schools around the world do in applied reading, math and science skills — as saying imagine, in a few years, that you could sign on to a website and see how your school compares with a similar school anywhere in the world. And then you could take this information to your superintendent and ask: "Why are we not doing as well as schools in China or Finland?" Well, that day has come, thanks to a successful pilot project involving 105 U.S. schools recently completed by Schleicher's team at the Organization for Economic Cooperation and Development, which coordinates the Program for International Student Assessment, or PISA test, and Jon Schnur's team at America Achieves, which partnered with the OECD. Starting this fall, any high school in America will be able to benchmark itself against the world's best schools, using a new tool that schools can register for at www.americaachieves.org. It is comparable to PISA and measures how well students can apply their mastery of reading, math and science to real world problems.

The pilot study was described in an America Achieves report entitled "Middle Class or Middle of the Pack?" that is being re-

leased Wednesday. The report compares U.S. middle class students to their global peers of similar socioeconomic status on the 2009 PISA exams.

The bad news is that U.S. middle-class students are badly lagging their peers globally. "Many assume that poverty in America is pulling down the overall U.S. scores," the report said, "but when you divide each nation into socioeconomic quarters, you can see that even America's middle-class students are falling behind not only students of comparable advantage, but also more disadvantaged students in several other countries." U.S. students in the second quarter of socioeconomic advantage — mostly higher middle class — were significantly outperformed by 24 countries in math and by 15 countries in science, the study found. In the third quarter of socioeconomic advantage — mostly lower middle class — U.S. students were significantly outperformed by peers in 31 countries or regions in math and 25 in science.

The good news, though, said Schnur, "is that, for the first time, we have documented that there are individual U.S. schools that are literally outperforming every country in the world."

"BASIS Tucson North, a nonselective high school serving an economically modest middle-class student population in Arizona, outperformed the average of every country in the world in reading, math, and science," the report said. "Three nonselective high schools in Fairfax, Va., outperformed the average of virtually every country in the world." One of them, Woodson, outperformed every region in the world in reading, except Shanghai.

But the pilot also exposed some self-deception. "One school, serving students similar to Woodson's, lags behind 29 countries in math but received an A on its state's accountability system based primarily on that state's own test," Schnur said.

Paul Bambrick-Santoyo is managing director of North Star Academies in Newark, N.J., an Uncommon Schools network of nine low-income char-

ter schools that took part and cracked the world's Top 10. "We have always had state tests and SATs," he told me, "but we never had an international metric. This was a golden opportunity to see where we stand — if we have to prepare our kids to succeed not only in this country but in a global marketplace." He said he was particularly motivated by the fact that Shanghai's low-income kids "could outperform" most U.S. schools, because this gave his school a real international peer for a benchmark.

"We got 157 pages of feedback" from participating in the pilot, added Jack Dale, the superintendent of Fairfax County's schools, which is so valuable because the PISA test exposes whether your high school students can apply their math, science and reading skills to 21st-century problems. "One of my principals said to me: 'This is not your Virginia Standards of Learning Test.'"

So what's the secret of the best-performing schools? It's that there is no secret. The best schools, the study found, have strong fundamentals and cultures that believe anything is possible with any student: They "work hard to choose strong teachers with good content knowledge and dedication to continuous improvement." They are "data-driven and transparent, not only around learning outcomes, but also around soft skills like completing work on time, resilience, perseverance — and punctuality." And they promote "the active engagement of our parents and families."

"If you look at all the data," concluded Schnur, it's clear that educational performance in the U.S. has not gone down. We've actually gotten a little better. The challenge is that changes in the world economy keep raising the bar for what our kids need to do to succeed. Our modest improvements are not keeping pace with this rising bar. Those who say we have failed are wrong. Those who say we are doing fine are wrong." The truth is, America has world-beating K-12 schools. We just don't have nearly enough. □

Salvatore Ferragamo's Contemporary Style For The Modern Woman

Spring / Summer 2013

Spring Summer 2013 the Gancio Zip collection, a symbol of style with a contemporary feel, introduces a new bag that is already a must-have, the Verve. Created to express the bold personality of a woman living her day with verve and absolute dynamism, it is designed to be with her on every occasion.

An exclusive mix of refined lines and modern cuts, top quality hides and handmade stitching, the Verve has a soft trapezoid structure obtained by assembling the bag directly on the mold which allows its silhouette to always keep its original shape. Thanks to the functional tubular handles it can be carried on the arm or as a shoulder bag. Capacious and available in



three sizes, the Verve is closed by bold metal zippers enhancing the perfect combination of beauty and modernity, where aesthetic detailing, such as the Gancio, turn into functional elements.

This Spring Summer 2013 the firmness of the grained natural calfskin and the distinction of classic and neutral colors are paired with Palladium finishing. The combination of two materials, bicolor calfskin and exquisite exotic leather, give a refined finish. An ultimate masterpiece of craftsmanship is the new Verve Light, a deconstructed ultra soft and ultra light model. A harmonious combination of natural looking vegetable leather of the highest quality. This self-closing bag is fitted with a detachable pocket. Precious pieces from the Spring Summer 2013 collection can be found in the Salvatore Ferragamo boutique in the Palm Beach Plaza Mall, walking distance from all the high rise hotels in Palm Beach. □